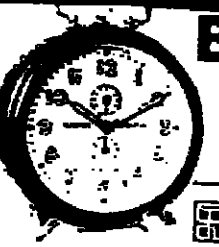


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NEWSWATCH

Murder charge

SEOUL, May 1, (AP): Five elementary school children were in custody on charges of killing a nine-year-old classmate for refusing to give them 15 cents, police said today.

The victim, Suh Kwang-Chan, was grabbed outside of his school in the rural city of Kohung in southwest Korea last Friday, police said.

Five other boys demanded that Suh give them 100 won (about 15 cents). The boys took Suh to a mountain with his hands tied after he refused, beat him with bamboo sticks and buried him alive after he stumbled while trying to flee, police said.

Security tightens

ISLAMABAD, May 1, (Reuters): Pakistan has tightened security at airports after a clandestine group threatened to hijack a Saudi Arabian airliner, the official APP news agency reported yesterday.

It quoted security officials as saying the Interior Ministry had received the threat early this month from the group calling itself "soldiers of justice."

Postponed

CHANDIPUR, May 1, (AP): The launch of India's first intermediate-range ballistic missile was postponed today for the second time after another last-minute technical hitch, officials said.

A government statement issued at the missile centre here said the launch was called off because computers detected a data error in one of the rocket's sub-systems.

27 feared drowned

CALCUTTA, May 1, (Reuters): Twenty-seven people were missing and feared drowned after a ferry capsized off India's West Bengal coast yesterday, police said.

They said 14 people swam ashore after the ferry capsized in a storm off the port of Hooty, 100 km (60 miles) from Calcutta, but there was no sign of the remaining passengers.

Income tax

TOKYO, May 1, (Reuters): A Japanese businessman made a record Japanese income tax payment of 6.55 billion yen (\$51.5 million) after selling a block of land in Tokyo last year, a government official said today.

A spokesman for the National Tax Administration Agency said Abdel Hadi Debs, representative of a Tokyo trading company, topped the nation's list of income tax payers.

Arab GNP \$385.5b

ABU DHABI, May 1, (KUNA): The Arab gross national product by the end of 1987 reached \$385.5 billion with the average per capita income amounting to \$1908, the unified Arab economic report indicated.

The report, the most trustworthy and documented report prepared by four official Arab bodies and obtained by KUNA, said that the rate of proven Arab oil reserves to that of the international one had reached 57.2 per cent, while the rate of overall Arab crude production to the global one stood at 21.6 per cent.

Smoking remedy

WASHINGTON, May 1, (KUNA): Researchers have found that a special "nicotine patch" did a "remarkable" job in helping most of a test group of smokers to quit.

In a six-week study last fall, 77 per cent of smokers wearing the patches stopped smoking. Only 39 per cent of a control group with patches not treated with the nicotine stopped smoking. Dr Richard Hurt, director of the Mayo "smoking cessation" clinic, told reporters.

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

○ دنیا بھر میں یوم مئی کی تقریبات

Today
The Grand Opening of
ZAINAH
CENTER in Fohahheel.
See page 5



May Day protest

At least 16 people were injured in May Day violence today as Turkish police broke up demonstrators ignoring a ban on workers' marches. Witnesses said police fired warning shots (above) in the air in Istanbul's central Taksim Square and charged with batons to disperse several score of protesters. (Reuters wirephoto). See Page 5.

Arab collaborators tried

ISLAMABAD, May 1, (Reuters): Another Palestinian accused of collaborating with Israel's secret police was stabbed to death in the occupied West Bank today—the seventh to die in eight days.

Hooded youths knifed shopkeeper Ahmed Ramini, 30, at his photo store next to Army headquarters in Tulkarm, on the border with Israel, security sources said. Troops clamped a curfew on the town but clashes erupted with Palestinian protesters.

In the village of Zawiya, another suspected collaborator opened fire during the night on several youths who tried to attack him and wounded one, Israel Radio said. The Israeli secret police issue guns to Arabs who co-operate with them.

PLO officials abroad approve most of the orders to kill Arabs suspected of collaborating with Israel after underground trials are conducted by local Palestinian activists, Palestinian sources said today.

In recent weeks, the pro-PLO underground has established a clandestine court system to try those accused of co-operating with Israel's military government in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Palestinian sources who spoke on condition of anonymity said witnesses were called to testify and notes or tape recordings

Israel protests at PLO map

MANILA, May 1, (Agencies): The PLO sought admission to the World Health Organisation with a map showing the proclaimed Palestinian state covering all Israel and the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Israeli Foreign Ministry said today.

Ministry spokesman Motti Amihai said Israel told several WHO members about the letter from PLO chairman Yasser Arafat as part of its protest at the application.

"The letter contains their logo. In it appears the map of what they call Palestine, which includes all of Israel with the territories, which is just an indication as to what they mean when they say Palestine," Amihai said.

The ministry distributed copies of the letter to reporters today. The letterhead in English and Arabic reads: "State of Palestine. Palestinian Liberation Organisation. The President."

The Foreign Ministry also showed the letter to US Ambassador Bill Brown, who expressed concern and said he would pass it on to Washington, Amihai said.

Hiroshi Nakajima, director-general of WHO, said on Friday he had received a formal application from Arafat for the PLO to join as a full member. It currently holds observer status.

Nakajima said he would seek talks with US President Bush to defuse a possible crisis over the PLO bid. The United States, Israel's closest ally, provides a quarter of the agency's budget.



UN aid

An Afghan UN worker hands sacks of flour and sugar to a woman in traditional dress. The UN distributed the last of emergency food in Kabul on Sunday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Tornado survivors

Survivors scrambled for meagre supplies of food, water and medicine on Monday as hunger and disease engulfed areas of central Bangladesh where at least 1,100 people were killed by a tornado last week. Most of the survivors are hungry and those who have eaten rotten food are having diarrhoea. Some survivors of the tornado seen taking their meal. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lebanese foes battle with mortar and tank fire

BEIRUT, May 1, (AP): Syrian and Christian forces battled with mortar and tank fire in hills above Beirut today in the most serious breach of a 3-day-old truce called by the Arab League to halt a eight weeks of bloodshed.

Police said two Lebanese soldiers were killed and seven civilians wounded, the first officially reported casualties since the truce went into effect on Friday.

Police said fighting raged from nightfall yesterday to daybreak today at the mountaintop town of Souk El Gharb, where a Christian Army garrison is ringed by Syrian troops and Druze militiamen.

Mortar and tank cannon rounds crashed in a cluster of nearby Christian and Druze

villages during the Souk El Gharb flare-up, wounding seven villagers, said a police spokesman. He cannot be named under standing rules.

"This is the gravest violation of the truce. It's worse than the sporadic bombardment of the coastline of the Christian enclave in the past two days," the spokesman said.

Sea water used in cold fusion

ABU DHABI, May 1, (UPI): Two Arab chemistry professors from the Emirates University have successfully carried out a nuclear fusion experiment by using sea water instead of the deuterium-rich heavy water.

Rashid Al Qassimi from the United Arab Emirates said today he and his Egyptian colleague Farouq Al Assali made the same experiment several times Saturday and yesterday at the university's laboratory in Al Ain.

"The experiment is the same as that conducted in the US Utah University, except that we used sea water instead of heavy water," Al Qassimi said.

Stanley Pons, a chemistry professor at Utah University and Martin Fleischmann of England's University of Southampton said March 23 an experiment involving palladium and platinum electrodes immersed in heavy water had yielded energy, indicating nuclear fusion had taken place.

Al Qassimi claimed "it is the first time that

normal water is used in such an experiment."

According to Al Qassimi, sea water contains less than 0.02 per cent of heavy water, with six tonnes containing about one kilogramme of heavy water.

Al Qassimi, however, said energy yield from the experiment was weaker than that generated in the experiment on heavy water.

See Fusion men rap Page 3

Rebels kill 17

Police break up Manila protest

MANILA, May 1, (Agencies): Philippine riot police fired tear-gas bombs today to disperse thousands of May Day protesters demanding higher wages and the removal of US military bases.

Police and protest leaders said 70 people were hurt after about 5,000 people marching to the US embassy fought police with rocks, bottles and metal pellets fired from slings.

A protest spokesman said 20 people were arrested. Police said they freed all but one who was booked for breach of peace.

About 1,500 protesters later held a brief rally near the presidential palace to condemn police dispersal of the embassy marchers.

Tens of thousands of workers across the country mounted the largest labour protest against the government of President Corason Aquino, demanding a 47 per cent wage hike and an end to US military bases in the Philippines.

In the biggest rally, 60,000 protesters gathered in Manila's Rizal Park and threatened a national strike if their pay demand was not met.

Several thousand split off to head towards the nearby US bases at Subic Bay and Clark and accusing Washington of meddling in Philippine affairs.

Suspected communist rebels opened fire with semi-automatic weapons during a fiesta in the hometown of former President Marcos and rebels elsewhere killed 17 people, including two presidential guards, officials and witnesses said today.

There were no deaths or serious injuries in the fiesta attack, which occurred late yesterday at the municipal auditorium of this town, about 400 kilometres (250 miles) north of Manila.

Communist guerrillas shot and killed two of President Aquino's security guards during an attack in front of a Manila church and two other rebel attacks elsewhere in the country left 15 people dead, officials said.



Tens of thousands of workers, carrying effigies of Uncle Sam and President Aquino staged May Day protests in Manila to press demands for higher wages. (Reuters wirephoto)

US may fight missile deal

Iran buys fighter-bombers, arms

MANAMA, May 1, (Agencies): An Israeli military expert said today the United States might try to prevent the French aviation firm Aerospatiale from selling missile technology to Iraq.

Gerald Steinberg, a military technology expert at Israel's Hebrew University, told Israel Radio that Washington, concerned about the spread of missiles in the region, would try to persuade the French government to stop the sale.

Aerospatiale executive Patrick Mercillon said in Baghdad yesterday there had been "a positive development" in talks on the transfer of missile technology to Iraq. The company has already provided Iraq with Exocet and other missiles.

"In order to sell this technology, Aerospatiale will need French government approval. The Americans are going to lean on the French not to grant it," Steinberg said.

"In theory, if it went far enough, the Americans could impose sanctions."

"Aerospatiale has a lot of work with the United States and with other Western countries and if they go out of the generally agreed limits which all countries agree to accept, then there could be some sort of a sanction that might not be worth the profit they may get from Iraq," he said.

Some Israeli experts say Iraq may turn its firepower on Israel following the ceasefire last August in its eight-year war against neighbouring Iran.

Meanwhile, Iran said today it was buying new fighter-bombers from an unnamed country, bolstering its depleted Air Force, and would get other weapons from the Soviet Union.

The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted First Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati as telling the Tehran Times newspaper that

Arms deal official, say Saudis denying charges

BAHRAIN, May 1, (UPI): Saudi Arabia yesterday denied news agency reports quoting a London newspaper alleging that British defence contractors bribed Saudi officials to clinch a \$20 billion arms deal with the kingdom last year.

A government spokesman quoted by the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said the agency reports quoting the Observer were baseless.

"What has been said in these reports is categorically baseless," the SPA quoted the spokesman.

"Specialised government departments in Britain are fully aware that the deal involving (the sale of) British weapons to the kingdom of Saudi Arabia was made between the two governments in an official and public manner, away from any brokers or dealers."

The spokesman said "serious accusations" of bribes and commissions were made without proof.

The London weekly Observer said yesterday British authorities were investigating Britain's biggest arms deal after charges that large payments were made to British Aerospace agents in the kingdom.

Gulf-based British diplomats said the National Audit Office was carrying out a "routine examination" of the arms deal.

Saudi Arabia opted to conclude the mammoth arms deal with Britain after pro-Israeli US congressmen, suspicious of the Arab state despite the fact that the kingdom is one of Washington's closest allies in the Arab world, in 1987 vetoed Riyadh's attempts to purchase American F-15E fighter jets.

Iran holds meeting

Haj controversy

MANAMA, May 1, (Agencies): The Iranian cabinet, chaired by Iran's hard-line Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashami, reviewed steps taken to prepare Iranians for the haj pilgrimage to Makkah, Tehran Radio said.

It said ministers "made a number of decisions in this regard" but gave no details.

Until now, Iran has said it will not allow its pilgrims to go to Makkah until Saudi Arabia lifted its quota system.

More than 400 people, most of them Iranians, were killed at Makkah in 1987 when Iranian demonstrators clashed with security forces. Tehran boycotted last year's haj after Riyadh refused to increase its quota of 45,000 pilgrims, imposed after the riots.

Saudi Arabia broke diplomatic ties with Iran last year but relations have showed signs of improving in recent months. Prime Minister Mir Hossein Mousavi said last week Iranians would attend the haj in July if existing obstacles, chiefly the quota, were removed.

The Iranian cabinet decision to examine the haj question came a day after Saudi Arabia issued a statement asking all Muslim countries including Iran to respect quotas for this year's pilgrimage.

orders for weapons from the Soviet Union as part of a continuing political and economic snub of Western nations in the wake of the Salman Rushdie affair, Besharati and Western diplomats said.

Hussein Salama adds: Reliable diplomatic sources have pointed out that Iran and Pakistan might reach an agreement on building a nuclear reactor in Iran.

The television, said it would show the confession of a different exposed agent in each show, to be broadcast every Thursday starting this week.

The preview showed brief scenes of three of the alleged agents sitting behind a desk talking, but it did not say who they were.

Last month, Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani said Iran had discovered "many nests of spies" in Iran.

Iran TV to broadcast confessions

NICOSIA, May 1, (AP): Tehran television yesterday previewed a new series called "Top Secret" to be broadcast each week, showing confessions of Iranian agents who allegedly worked for the Central Intelligence Agency, the US intelligence organisation.

The television, said it would show the confession of a different exposed agent in each show, to be broadcast every Thursday starting this week.

The preview showed brief scenes of three of the alleged agents sitting behind a desk talking, but it did not say who they were.

Last month, Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani said Iran had discovered "many nests of spies" in Iran.

INTERNATIONAL

Chinese students denounce dialogue

BEIJING, May 1. (AP) Student protest leaders today angrily denounced two government meetings with selected students as attempts to placate them without offering any of the democratic reforms they seek.

"We don't recognise this 'dialogue'," a spokesman of the independent student association that has been leading the protests told a news conference.

"We demand a dialogue based on the principles of equality and

openness, conducted directly between democratically chosen student representatives and government decision-makers," said the spokesman for the United Association of Beijing Universities. He did not want his name used for fear of government reprisals.

Wang Dan, a student leader at Beijing University, the nation's most prestigious school, called for establishment of a nationwide independent student group

and indefinite continuation of the class boycott begun last week by about 75,000 students in Beijing and nearby Tianjin.

The government set up the weekend meetings in an effort to end two weeks of student demonstrations, including the largest protest marches in 40 years of communist rule. The students are demanding sweeping democratic reforms of China's tightly controlled political system, including a free press, and

an end to official privileges and corruption.

The student spokesman expressed anger over the government's refusal to recognise the United Association as the students' representative in the meetings.

Instead, the government selected 45 students to take part in Saturday's meeting with Education Minister He Dongchang and other senior officials.

Sinhalese reject invitation for peace talks

COLOMBO, May 1. (Agencies) Left-wing Sinhalese rebels in Sri Lanka have rejected the government's invitation for peace talks and put forward six demands.

In a letter published in the Sunday Times, the People's Liberation Front (JVP), described the government's peace overtures as propaganda.

It said peace could be restored if the 1987 pact with India, aimed at ending a rebellion by the minority Tamils, was abrogated and 45,000 Indian troops left the island.

It also called for recent presidential and parliamentary elections cancelled and fresh polls held under a caretaker administration.

About 2,500 people, including supporters of the ruling United National Party, have been killed in the JVP's campaign against the government in the past two years.

The JVP presented its demands as the government awaited Tamil separatist guerrilla leaders to emerge from their jungle hideouts for peace talks.

A special envoy of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi arrives in Colombo today to discuss a proposed friendship treaty between the two countries, a senior minister said.

Foreign and Deputy Minister for Defence, Ranjan Wijeratne told KUNA that the Indian envoy, Foreign Secretary Shailendra Kumar Singh, will also discuss with the Lankan officials granting of more powers to the provincial councils.



Women get right to vote

WOMEN of Appenzell Outer-Rhodes are to be allowed to vote in the Canton's annual parliament following a historic and controversial all-male decision at the parliament's solemn open-air ceremony Sunday.

Neighbouring Appenzell Inner-Rhodes is now the only Swiss canton, or state, which denies women the right to vote on local issues.

Proposals to give women the vote were rejected

four times in the past 17 years by the direct-representation parliament, or Landsgemeinde, in Appenzell Outer-Rhodes, and many had predicted that Sunday's vote in the 50,000 population canton would go the same way. Picture shows (left) women are kept back from the voting arena by Swiss Army troops for the last time. Right, with a show of hands, men vote to allow women to vote. (Reuter wirephotos).

'Illegal' practices

Kissinger's dealings questioned

WASHINGTON, May 1. (KUNA) New questions arose over the propriety of Henry Kissinger and his cronies using information obtained from current links to government to collect large fees from private arms-related and other firms.

Kissinger is a former State Department secretary who retains strong influence inside and outside of the Bush administration.

The New York Times, in a lengthy investigative article, noted public records showed one of "Kissinger Associates" clients — the giant ITT Corp. — operated a US missile system under a \$700 million US government contract.

Lawrence Eagleburger, who was president of Kissinger's consultancy in 1984 until recently, was an ITT director for the last four years.

Asked if Kissinger knew of ITT's military work, Kissinger lawyer Michael Maslin said, "clearly he's not."

Eagleburger, like Kissinger strongly pro-Israeli, served as an under-secretary of State and, despite questioning by congressmen over possible conflicts-of-interest, recently was confirmed as deputy secretary of State.

That is the department's second-ranking position after secretary. The general phenomenon of president or current government insiders using their knowledge in such a way is called the "revolving door."

Out of 1,100 warheads

US Navy to reduce N-arms by 5 per cent

WASHINGTON, May 1. (Agencies) The Navy has decided to retire three short-range nuclear weapons that account for 5 per cent of the total stockpile of US warheads, Navy officials said yesterday.

By 1991, the Navy will retire the Asroc nuclear depth charge, the Subroc missile and the Terrier missile, a total of 1,100 warheads, according to Navy officers and documents released under the freedom of information act.

The weapons originally were intended to provide a nuclear deterrent against attacks on surface ships by Soviet warships and submarines. But Navy strategists now believe they can protect US ships from other ships by other means and see a greater threat from backfire and badger bombers based on the Soviet mainland.

The decision to unilaterally discard the weapons was contained in documents obtained by an independent analyst, William Arkin, was first reported in Sunday editions of the New York Times, and confirmed by Navy officers.

It was not clear why the administration of President George Bush chose to take such a major step without public announcement and apparently has not sought to include the weapons in negotiations with the Soviet Union.

The decision was prompted by the realisation that the United States has more aircraft carriers and large surface vessels than the Soviet Union, and that such ships are vulnerable to nuclear attack, said Navy officers.

"There is a recognition that if there is a nuclear war at sea, we have got more to lose than the Russians," the Times quoted Vice Admiral Henry C. Mustin.

The Air Force has proposed spending \$1.9 billion to improve the B-1 bomber over the next five years and an extra \$300 million this year to develop the B-2 Stealth bomber, the Washington Post reported today.

Meanwhile, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Chancellor Helmut Kohl failed to resolve their differences on West Germany's call for NATO-Soviet talks on reducing short-range nuclear weapons in Europe.

"If you get rid of short-range nuclear weapons — only 88, but they are absolutely vital — you get rid of one principal element of flexible response," Thatcher declared following a three-hour meeting with Kohl in Deidesheim, West Germany.

But Kohl reiterated his demand for early negotiations on a reduction in the weapons.

Millions mark May Day with pageantry

End ethnic division, urges Pravda

MOSCOW, May 1. (UPI) Millions of workers around the world marked May Day with parades, pageantry and protests today, while communist giants China and the Soviet Union issued pleas for unity and an end to political and social unrest.

More than 100,000 people waving red banners, balloons, flags and flowers marched through Moscow's Red Square in a colourful display of international solidarity among workers.

With Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and other members of the ruling Politburo perched atop Lenin's tomb, wave after wave of workers and school children paraded past in a traditional demonstration in praise of work and the Communist Party.

Similar marches took place in virtually every major town and city across the Soviet Union and in scores of other countries around the world.

The Communist Party daily newspaper Pravda marked the day with a call for an end to ethnic divisions in the Soviet Union that have led to recent violent clashes in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

In its May Day editorial, Pravda said the celebrations should remind all Soviets of the need to continue to work together to find a solution to the nationalities problem.

In Beijing, authorities issued a May Day appeal urging workers to support stability in the face of two weeks of student unrest and asking them to be patient with the serious problem arising from the nation's economic reforms.

Hu Qili, one of the five members of the powerful Communist Party Politburo, told a meeting of 7,000 workers that the reforms would "achieve nothing if social stability is not guaranteed."

In the Philippines, thousands of workers pressed demands for wage increases in marches and rallies across the nation, but President Corason Aquino rejected the pleas, saying a pay hike would set back economic gains.

Police said more than 20,000 workers massed Manila's seaside Rizal Park, where conservative and leftist labour groups held a joint rally in a show of unity in efforts to press Aquino to grant a 30-peso (\$1.50) increase in the daily minimum wage of 64 pesos (\$3.20).

The underground leadership of the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories in its latest leaflet called for a day of demonstrations and clashes against soldiers and settlers.

Police normally tolerant of political gatherings on Moscow's popular Arbat pedestrian mall grabbed leaders of several underground groups selling their magazines yesterday, the eve of the official May Day holiday.

More than ten thousand Japanese labourers today celebrated the first of May by demanding an investigation of political scandals, elimination of taxes and consumer goods and wage increases.

11 million labourers participated in popular marches, rallies and gathered to listen to 1200 speeches throughout Japan.

Crewmen missing

TOKYO, May 1. (AP) Three crewmen on US Navy submarine were washed overboard today off Japan's southwestern island of Kyushu, and two remained missing, US military officials said.

One of the three men who fell from the 2,145-ton Barbel was rescued later, but the other two were still missing late today, the US forces media liaison office said in a news release.

China removes Stalin portrait

BEIJING, May 1. (Reuters) As China prepares to welcome Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev it is wrestling with the legacy of another Kremlin leader, Josef Stalin.

For the first time since the 1950s a portrait of Stalin is not peering at Tiananmen Square in the heart of Beijing on May 1, International Labour Day.

"It is a symbol of a reassessment that has to come," said an East European source in Beijing. Twice a year, on May 1 and Oct 1, China's National Day, Stalin's picture has joined Chinese revolutionary Sun Yat-Sen and members of the Communist pantheon, Marx, Engels and Lenin, on public display.

This year only Sun Yat-Sen, father of the revolution that overthrew the Manchu dynasty in 1911, is honoured in the square, gazing across at Mao



A not policeman is set on fire by a petrol bomb thrown by a militant government protesters at Seoul's Yonsei University on Sunday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Call for protests

Seoul detains 6,600

SEOUL, May 1. (AP) Militant labour groups today called for major protests after the government arrested some 6,600 people to block a May Day rally in Seoul. Workers and students battled riot police in three cities.

The national headquarters for labour struggle, an alliance of militant trade unions, said it would hold a major rally in the southern port of Masan on Thursday and warned there would be violence if police attempted to block it.

Labour organisers also urged workers at more than 800 companies across the nation to stop work every afternoon through Thursday to stage rallies.

Police said today that about 6,600 people were arrested in Seoul during the weekend. Protesters battled riot police in running street clashes in Seoul yesterday after 20,000 troops blocked a rally called by labour groups to mark May Day.

Riot police firing tear-gas battled about 5,000 striking workers in Masan and nearby Changwon today after protesters attempted to stage May Day rallies there, police said. Some protesters set fire to wooden barricades to hold police back.

About 20 workers were arrested, police said. Riot police also battled some 2,000 radical students in clashes at three campuses in Seoul, police said. Students hurled firebombs and rocks at riot police to protest the blocking of yesterday's rally.

Police already have banned the planned rally in Masan on Thursday and warned that riot police would block any attempt to stage an illegal protest. Police were put on top alert.

Bush roots for perestroika

WASHINGTON, May 1. (AP) US President Bush says he wants political and economic reforms championed by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to succeed, despite a suggestion by Defence Secretary Dick Cheney that the efforts will fail.

At the same time, Bush's Chief of Staff, John Sununu, sought to put distance between the administration and Cheney's remarks, saying in a broadcast interview yesterday that Bush does not share the defence secretary's views.

"I think the President and Secretary (of State James A.) Baker ... are hoping that Gorbachev's movement towards reform and restructuring the Soviet Union does succeed," Sununu said on the NBC-TV programme "Meet the Press."

Testing, whose portrait hangs permanently on the Gate of Heavenly Peace.

Stalin has been almost completely repudiated in the Soviet Union for his mass purges and executions. His crimes are under almost daily critical examination

by the Moscow media.

In China, he is still officially honoured. His name adorns streets, parks and public squares in China's northeast, where Soviet armies took the surrender of Japanese troops in the closing days of World War Two.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Politicians meet

KHARTOUM, May 1. (Reuters) A delegation of prominent southern Sudanese politicians will meet rebel leaders in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, today, Khartoum newspapers reported.

The English-language weekly Forward said the delegation was led by Abel Alier, a former president of Sudan and vice-president of South Sudan.

Guerrillas killed

WINDHOEK, Namibia, May 1. (AP) South African-led soldiers have killed two guerrillas in at least one battle since they began searching for rebels who refuse to leave northern Namibia under a UN peace plan, sources said yesterday.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said there has been at least one battle within the past 24 hours between the government forces and Nationalist guerrillas of the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

IRA arms cache

LETTERKENNY, Ireland, May 1. (Reuters) Irish police said yesterday they discovered a major IRA arms cache near the border with Northern Ireland.

The find included five rifles, three handguns, 2,600 rounds of ammunition, grenades, bomb timers and semtex explosive thought to have been smuggled from Libya.

Aid for rebels

WASHINGTON, May 1. (Reuters) The White House chief of staff said in a television interview there was documentary evidence that President Bush did not seek aid for the Nicaraguan rebels during a 1985 meeting with the president of Honduras.

Chief of Staff John Sununu said a State Department cable from then-US ambassador to Honduras John Negroponte supported the administration's contention that Bush went to Tegucigalpa only to discuss US assistance with President Roberto Suazo Cordova.

Visit to China

BEIJING, May 1. (AP) Taiwanese officials arrived today for the first visit to mainland China by a Nationalist delegation since their defeat by the communists in 1949. The delegation will attend the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank, opening in Beijing Thursday.

Name, flag changed

BANGKOK, Thailand, May 1. (AP) The Vietnamese-installed government in Kampuchea has changed the country's name and flag in what appears to be conciliatory moves toward the guerrilla resistance.

The official Cambodian news agency SPK said today that yesterday, the National Assembly unanimously adopted amendments to the constitution under which the name "People's Republic of Kampuchea" was changed to "The State of Cambodia."



Campaign

Solidarity founder Lech Walesa, opening the opposition's campaign for June 4 parliamentary elections, said Poland has yet to achieve democracy but has taken a "considerable step in this direction."

Walesa, standing atop a barrel (picture above) outside St Brygid's Roman Catholic church after Sunday mass, introduced the eight Solidarity candidates for the Gdansk area to a crowd of more than 7,000 people. (Reuters wirephoto)

MUSIC MAGIC AND MASCOTS AT THE SULTAN CENTER

Happy Eid

SHUWAIKH May 3rd May 4th May 5th	- Band Music - Magic Show - Cartoon - Characters	8:30-10:30 pm 8:30 - 9:00 pm 8:30-10:30 pm
FAHAHEEL May 4th May 5th May 6th	- Band Music - Magic Show - Cartoon - Characters	8:30-10:30 pm 8:30 - 9:00 pm 6:00 - 8:30 pm
SALMIYA May 5th May 6th May 7th	- Band Music - Magic Show - Cartoon - Characters	7:30 - 9:30 pm 7:30 - 8:00 pm 6:00 - 8:30 pm
SALWA May 4th May 5th May 6th	Cartoon Characters	8:00-10:30 pm 8:00-10:30 pm 6:00 - 8:30 pm
The Sultan Center Restaurant Seaside location May 6th		Band Music 6:30 - 8:30 pm

SALMIYA 5719620
SHUWAIKH 4841074
FAHAHEEL 3920291
SALWA 5636790
RESTAURANT 5625811

السُلطان
THE SULTAN CENTER

Many see Latin American communism as a growing threat: US poll

NEW YORK, May 1. (AP) Many people in the United States regard communism in Latin America as a growing threat to US security, but most view communism elsewhere with far less suspicion, a media general-association press poll has found.

Communists today marked May Day, the international workers' holiday, with parades and other shows of solidarity. But respondents to a US poll said by nearly a 3-1 margin that capitalism holds more sway in the world than communism.

Overwhelming majorities viewed communists nations as loosening social restrictions and eschewing Soviet direction. And many saw communist countries as retreating from their government-controlled economic systems.

Even with the perceptions that communism is changing, however, the poll did not find a sense that communism is fading. Just two in 10 said it is on the decline around the world.

By contrast, among those with an opin-

ion, 27 per cent said communism was on the rise and 46 per cent said it was holding steady. The poll of 1,108 adults March 6-15 had a 3-point margin of error.

Respondents said by a narrow margin — 49 per cent to 41 per cent, with the rest unsure — that closer relations between the Soviet Union and China posed a threat to the United States. The first Sino-Soviet summit in 20 years is planned this month.

Still, about half favoured closer trade with the Soviet Union to encourage

democratic reforms there. A third were opposed, on grounds that trade would only support the current system. The rest were unsure.

Only with respect to Latin America did a sizable group, 44 per cent, say communism is becoming more of a threat to the security of the United States. Marxists rule in Nicaragua; communists rule in Cuba and are waging insurgencies in Colombia, El Salvador, Peru and other Latin American countries.

مركز السُلطان

Of data dilemma and information anxiety

It's better for you to say 'I don't know'

NEW YORK, May 1. (AP) If the stock market has you baffled, if the Richter scale has you dizzy, if you're likely to lie about having read that 550-page report still sitting on your desk, you've got information anxiety.

Richard Saul Wurman, the fast-talking author of a new American book on the subject, believes thousands, perhaps millions, of people suffer from the condition.

"It's saying, 'I just can't keep up.' It's that feeling of pressure. You know it, I know it. Admit it, everyone does," he says.

"It's that feeling that Terry Smith down the street can put together the bicycle and you don't know how, that they can programme their VCR (Videocassette recorder) to record things 14 days ahead of time and you can't... that he's read the big,

fat report sitting in your box and you can't because it just doesn't make any sense, so you have to lie and say, 'Oh yeah, that was a pretty good report.'

That, says Wurman, is what society's latest high-tech malady has done — turned humans into masses of lying, quivering jelly brains, too afraid to admit they don't know or don't understand.

Wurman argues that information anxiety is a result of the societal demand that everyone become well-rounded culturally, coupled with the fact that much of the information being dispersed does not really inform.

"It's just stuff, or data, and I refer to it as the non-information explosion," he said. Wurman blames the education system. He says schools teach that "it's better to say 'I know' than 'I don't know.' It's better to answer a question than ask a question

... A longer report is a better report." His new book is aimed at calming anxiety sufferers by providing such commonsense ideas as:

● Allow periodicals to stack up before ripping out individual articles of interest, thereby reducing a preponderant pile to small stacks of what Wurman calls "interest shards." The idea: if there's less to look at, there's less anxiety.

● Make a list of terms you use or hear often, but don't really understand (computer lingo, market futures, the Richter scale) and make a point to learn what they mean, one at a time.

● Never nod your head at something you don't understand. Practise saying, "I don't understand," in front of a mirror. The sooner you admit you don't know, the sooner you can actually learn.

Wurman admits his book is full of a lot of things that people always knew, but having them published "gives it the kind of justification to say it out loud for the first time."

Wurman is an architect by training but is better known as an architect of information.

"I realize how ignorant I am. I'm more knowledgeable about my ignorance than perhaps anybody I know. When I don't understand things, I often do a book about them," says the 53-year-old writer, who has turned his thirst for knowledge into a thriving business.

The result has been 26 "access" books that include guides to the 1984 Olympics, medical terms and his latest, a guide to the Wall Street Journal, which walks readers through a jungle of financial jargon.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

'A little late in my life'

NEW YORK, May 1. (AP) Singer Lena Horne says she would like to get married again, but doubts she can find a good match.

"The women's movement came a little late in my life," Horne, 71, says in the Sunday issue of Parade magazine.

"I find many women who don't have the need I do. They want to be independent, see somebody when they feel like it, maybe — but otherwise, a man is not convenient in their lives."

"I envy that, but would like to be married," said Horne, whose husband, bandleader-arranger Lennie Hayton, died in 1971 after 24 years of marriage.

Still, "I doubt whether I could make a successful marriage now. I've worked out the way I am," she added. "Unless — unless the man was absolutely unique, one who could match my experiences. Maybe... if he was a man who has had as many metamorphoses in his life as I've had."

Learn to live for present

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, May 1. (AP) Actor Wilford Brimley told an audience of senior citizens that the elderly should not prepare for death, but instead learn to live for the present.

"I'm just a kid," the 54-year-old Brimley told the second annual Utah conference for seniors. "I don't know a... thing about aging. I just exercise a lot every day and I feel good most of the time."

He recited several of his favourite poems and spoke of his philosophy on living well and caring for the land he loves.

"Someone once said, 'there is no afterlife for a place that started out as heaven.' I feel that way about Utah," Brimley said on Wednesday.

Concerts in Moscow

LONDON, May 1. (AP) The British rock group Pink Floyd will play five concerts in June at Moscow's Olympic stadium.

The band said the Soviet government made the performances possible by offering to fly in the group's more than 300 tons of stage equipment.

"Dozens of lasers, computerized lighting systems, circular screens, videos, fireworks, smoke effects and a model of a flying pig, one of the band's trademarks, will be used in the show."

"We have always had a reputation for not cutting corners, trying to put on the best show possible, sparing no expense and producing some surprises," said guitarist Dave Gilmour.

Unusual royal criticism

LONDON, May 1. (AP) Britain's Prince Charles says Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu is destroying that country's cultural heritage by razing villages and replacing city buildings with "a uniform and deathly mock modernity."

In an unusual royal criticism of a foreign leader, the 40-year-old heir to the British throne said he was appalled at "the awful specter of an entire society — not just certain districts — losing its roots and its ancient communities."

"The 20th century has witnessed some strange aberrations of the human spirit, but few can match the activities of rulers who boast about their patriotism and then systematically undertake the destruction of the cultural heritage of their people," Charles said at an architecture exhibition on Wednesday.

"President Ceausescu has set about destroying the cities and villages of his country and replacing them with blocks of flats (apartments) which are a repetition of failed 1950s social engineering mixed with the atmosphere of George Orwell's '1984,'" he added.

Facts to those who need them

MOSCOW, May 1. (AP) Have you ever wondered which is the highest tree in Lithuania? Or the tallest church? Those who find themselves speculating about such things will doubtless be pleased with the book of records to be published soon in the Republic of Lithuania.

The book is expected to report the facts, for those who need them, that the highest tree in Lithuania is a 151-foot (46-metre) large which grows in the Prekysky region. The tallest church is 230-foot (70-metre) St Peter and Paul church in Shaulyavys.

Famous basketball player Arvidas Sabonis apparently has the title of the tallest man in the republic. Sabonis is a 7-foot, 3-inch (2.21-metre) centre from Kaunas.

Aborigines raise outcry

SYDNEY, May 1. (AP) Aboriginal activists today called for the assassination of the New South Wales police minister amid uproar over a manhunt in which an unarmed man was shot dead and officers staged a fake arrest.

The conduct of police searching for a gunman who shot and wounded two of their colleagues in Sydney a week ago has enraged aborigines and civil rights groups as well as the state Ombudsman and the state opposition.



200th anniversary

GEORGE Bush, the 41st US President, celebrated the 200th anniversary on Sunday of the inauguration of America's first leader, George Washington.

Bush and his wife Barbara attended an inter-faith "service of thanksgiving" at St Paul's Church in Manhattan, sitting in the same spot Washington occupied two centuries ago. Later they attended a re-enactment of the first inaugural at Federal Hall in the Wall Street district, where Washington took the same oath of office that Bush took last Jan 20. In the picture Bush looks around Barbara and out of the glass enclosure surrounding him at the deluge of confetti falling from tall buildings. (Reuter wirephoto)

\$272,000 looted

Gang robs cash van

ISLAMABAD, May 1. (AP) Six robbers opened fire on a bank van yesterday, looting it of 5.5 million rupees (\$272,000) and injuring the driver as a second cash-filled van stopped short of the scene and was not touched, bank officials said.

Fazlur Rahman Bhatti, manager of city branch of Habib Bank in Rawalpindi, 12 miles (19 kilometres) south east of the capital of Islamabad, told reporters that the robbers in a yellow Toyota car, attacked a van near the State Bank where cashiers had gone to deposit money.

"Six robbers opened indiscriminate firing on the van, injured its driver, snatched cash bags and fled the scene," said Bhatti. He said the robbers got away with 5.5 million rupees (\$272,000).

The driver was admitted to a hospital with unspecified injuries.

Bhatti said the driver of a second van which was carrying 1.3 million rupees (\$64,516) stopped a short distance away when he saw the first one under attack. His van was not attacked.

Police were searching vehicles on all roads going out of Rawalpindi, but had made no arrests, he said.

Four occupants of the van, an officer, cashier, loader and security guard were ordered to leave the van after the injured driver was overpowered by the gunmen.

Change alley closes

SINGAPORE, May 1. (Reuter) It's the end of the road for Singapore's change alley, a dingy lane that has drawn bargain-hunting servicemen and tourists since the 1940s.

Many of the 140 shops in the 100-metre (yard) lane, named for the money-changers who originally populated it, opened on Sunday for the last time before bulldozers raze the area.

The Environment Ministry has announced the alley will be demolished early next month to make way for a shopping and office complex.

Tribute to Lucille Ball

LOS ANGELES, May 1. (UPI) Fans of Lucille Ball crowded around her star on the Hollywood walk of fame yesterday, leaving flowers and signing a block-long white paper scroll in tribute to the queen of television comedy who died this week.

Dozens of fans stopped at the star on Hollywood boulevard, bending down to write on the scroll already crowded with signatures and messages left in memory of the red-headed comedienne.

The star of the TV sitcom "I Love Lucy" and acknowledged queen of television comedy died on Wednesday of a ruptured aorta. She was 77.

Bid to control AIDS

MOSCOW, May 1. (Reuter) The Soviet Union is stepping up production of disposable syringes and condoms in a bid to control the spread of AIDS.

Health Minister Yevgeny Chazov said in an interview that supplies were being increased because earlier directives to fight the disease had been ignored or not implemented fully.

His statement followed criticism by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at a party meeting last week that 30 million disposable syringes bought abroad were lying useless because Soviet manufacturers had been unable to supply needles.

Probe into mayor's dealings

LOS ANGELES, May 1. (AP) Officials of the third-largest US city plan to broaden an investigation into Mayor Tom Bradley's financial dealings and his ties to a city-funded task force that hired his daughter, newspapers reported yesterday.

Investigators have interviewed some city officials as many as eight times about the newly re-elected mayor's links to Far East National Bank, and in coming weeks will examine his relationships with Valley Federal Savings and Loan Association and the task force, the Los Angeles Times reported yesterday.

Paper withdrawn

Fusion men rap nature 'scandal'

SALT LAKE CITY, May 1. (AP) Two scientists who have been taken back by attacks on their experimental claims of room-temperature nuclear fusion have lashed out at the source of the latest rebuff — the British scientific journal Nature.

Fusion researchers R. Stanley Pons and Martin Fleischmann said the prestigious journal forced them to withdraw their paper and made inaccurate statements, and that one editor was "rumbling in the dark."

On March 23, Pons, a chemistry professor at the University of Utah, and Fleischmann, of England's University of Southampton, announced that an experiment involving palladium and platinum electrodes immersed in heavy water had yielded energy indicating nuclear fusion had taken place. Heavy water is like ordinary water except that ordinary hydrogen atoms have been replaced by deuterium, a heavier cousin or isotope of hydrogen.

Further, the scientists claimed the so-called "cold fusion" experiment had yielded more than four times the energy needed to produce it. Previous attempts at fusion have involved extremely high temperatures.

While laboratories around the world have duplicated the experiment and reported similar results, others have reported failures and critics have remained unconvinced.

Nature, in an April 27 edition that contained several articles on fusion, speculated that the Utah experiment is fatally flawed and will never be verified.

"The Utah phenomenon is literally unsupported by the evidence, could be an artefact and gives its improbability, is most likely to be one," wrote John Maddox, editor of the 120-year-old magazine.

Pons said Nature had dipped to "sensationalism of the worst type. I have never in my life seen such a scandal by a scientific journal to discredit two people. They have a privileged position that they are not."

Fleischmann criticised Nature's repeated accusations that he and Pons leaked to reporters their intent to submit to Nature a scientific paper on their experiments.

Untrue

"At the (March 23) press conference we stated it was quite incorrect to disclose the name of the journal we were submitting to because it would restrict the freedom of action of the editor," Fleischmann said.

"It could have only come from other people submitting papers, or from reviewers or the staff of Nature itself," he said. "I think it's an impertinence that Nature feels itself entitled to repeat an allegation which is untrue."

They said that on the same day they made their announcement, they submitted a preliminary paper to Nature and met Nature's requirements for submission.

After the researchers' more lengthy scientific paper was published in the Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry, Pons said, Nature requested substantially more information.

One killed, 14 hurt in shooting spree

Gunman questioned

WHITLEY BAY, England, May 1. (AP) Police today were questioning a 22-year-old civil servant who went on a 15-minute shooting spree in an English coastal town, killing one man and injuring 14 people, officials and news reports said.

Witnesses said the black-clad gunman strolled through the streets of Monkseaton, a fashionable suburb of the Whitley Bay seaside resort in northeast England, firing a double-barrelled shotgun at anyone within range.

The victims included several churchgoers returning from a Sunday morning service, a cyclist, a couple driving in a car, a man mowing his lawn, a woman who opened her front door and others who peered out their windows, officials said.

The first ambulance officers who arrived on the scene came under fire themselves, and had to dive for cover to escape injury.

"He was having a go at any person he met," said Ken Heads, superintendent of the Northumbria ambulance service.

"I have never seen anyone so calm and totally in control — he was like a robot," said a resident, 40-year-old Jane Boyd.

Witnesses said the gunman was dressed all in black, with dark sunglasses and his hair in a pony tail. They said he wore an ammunition belt around his waist, had a hunting knife strapped to one leg, and stalked the streets, pausing only to shoot and reload.

The gunman, who had driven to the suburb just before midday, drove away after the rampage. A policeman chased him in an unmarked car and arrested him without incident outside a pub.

Police said they had arrested a 22-year-old man from Whitley Bay, but did not identify him and provided no immediate motive for the shootings.

The man apparently did not know personally any of the people he shot, they said.

News reports identified him as a civil servant who lived with his parents a mile (1.5 kilometres) from the shooting scene.

The tabloid Sun reported he regularly went clay-pigeon shooting with his father and quoted a neighbour, Harry Stephenson, as saying, "you couldn't hope to meet a more

Baby food scare

Cans untampered

LONDON, May 1. (AP) The Tesco supermarket chain said yesterday it will resume selling canned baby food after an examination of its entire stock found no cans had been tampered with.

Glass jars of baby food made by H.J. Heinz Co. and Cow and Gate Ltd. will be kept off the shelves of the company's 375 stores nationwide as police continue their investigation into more than 300 reports of contamination, the retailer said.

Boots, a drugstore chain with more than 1,000 stores, and the Asda food chain, have also halted sales of the products sold in glass jars.

Scotland Yard, which is co-ordinating a national police investigation, said it has not linked any more cases of food tampering with a man demanding up to £1 million (\$1.7 million).

More than 300 cases of contaminated baby food have been reported, but police say only two can be positively attributed to the extortionist. One case involved caustic soda found in a jar in southeast England and the other, pieces of broken razor blades in a jar in Oxford.

Police have said they believe most of the reports were hoaxes, copycats crimes or other cases of international contamination. A woman in Dublin, Ireland, has been charged with wasting police time, and similar prosecutions are being considered against several others, said a police spokesman.

John Asprey, a spokesman for Heinz in Britain, said the company has confirmed five cases of contamination, all involving jars — the two cases linked by police to the extortion bid plus three jars containing glass shards in Worthing and Southampton in southern England.

Heinz sells 80 million jars and 90 million cans of baby food in Britain each year, and Asprey said the contamination scare had cost it "a considerable amount" in lost sales.

pleasant young man."

Police identified the dead man as Kenneth MacKintosh, 41, a telephone company employee who was married and had two children. He had been returning home from church.

North Tyneside Hospital spokesman Michael Scargill said 14 men and women were treated for gunshot wounds. Six were hospitalized, three in serious condition, he said.

Eric Holloway, a 47-year-old

engineer, said he grabbed a spade from a garden and chased the gunman, but did not manage to confront him after his family was fired on in their car. Holloway, his wife, Heather, and 6-year-old son, Adam, escaped injury.

British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd has come under increasing pressure to introduce tighter curbs on shotguns. British police federation has called for new laws to solve the continuing threat.

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USED CARS

Scientists make a breakthrough in fighting leukemia

BOSTON, May 1. (UPI) Scientists have identified the genes a virus apparently used to cause a deadly type of leukemia, a finding that should lead to new ways to fight the disease and perhaps other forms of cancer, it was reported yesterday.

An international team of researchers said it had demonstrated the so-called "X region" of the genetic material in a virus known as HTLV-1 is the device that enables the virus to cause

adult T-cell leukemia.

"We're very pleased. What we've shown is this is the piece of the puzzle," said Dr. William Haseltine of Harvard Medical School, who headed the research.

"It's really a breakthrough we've been working on ever since we've known about this virus," said Haseltine, chief of the division of human retrovirology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

HTLV-1, which stands for human T-cell leukemia virus Type 1, is most common in the Caribbean, Japan, Africa and Central America. Although the virus and disease are relatively rare in the United States, the virus is believed to be spreading, mostly among US intravenous drug users.

The virus is in a class of viruses known as retroviruses, which includes the virus that causes the deadly disease AIDS. Like that

virus, it is spread primarily through sexual and blood-to-blood contact.

In a paper published in the latest issue of the proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Haseltine's team worked with researchers at West Germany's Erlangen University of Erlangen to find the genetic mechanism the virus uses to trigger the abnormal growth of immune system cells, called T-cells.

The researchers inserted a section of the genetic material from HTLV-1 suspected of being the culprit — known as the "X region" — into a type of herpes virus.

The researchers then infected human immune system cells with herpes viruses containing the X region and with those that did not contain the section. Only those containing the X region became pre-cancerous, the researchers said.

Kuwait to form anti-illiteracy committee

Contributions towards international year in 1990

KUWAIT, May 1, (KUNA): Education Minister Anwar Al Nouri issued a decision yesterday calling for the formation of the Kuwait Committee for the International Year of Literacy in 1990, under the chairmanship of Education Undersecretary Abdul Rahman Al Khodari.

The decision entrusts the committee with setting up an integrated and comprehensive plan for the national and official efforts toward Kuwait's contribution to the international year in 1990, under the chairmanship of Education Undersecretary Abdul Rahman Al Khodari.

The committee will co-ordinate documents and information received from UNESCO and the Arab apparatus for the eradication of illiteracy and other Arab and international bodies on the annual celebration and will also prepare a variety of programmes in co-operation with the competent authorities to increase awareness of the illiteracy problem.

It will also publish a booklet aimed at highlighting Kuwait's contribution to the celebration, in addition to preparing a report on the committee's activities.

The committee groups Education Assistant Undersecretary for Information and Student

Affairs Abdel Mohsen Al Saeed, Director of the Department for Adult Education and Eradication of Illiteracy Abdel Aziz Al Najdi, in addition to 33 members representing the various departments at the ministry and government institutions, non-profit organisations and banking institutions.

Charitable organisations can help

Help stop beggars call to residents

KUWAIT, May 1, (KUNA): A number of government authorities have called on citizens and expatriates to co-operate with them to fight the begging menace and help arrest them. A responsible source at the Interior Ministry has called on citizens to stop giving money to beggars who have spread themselves in mosques, roads, markets and housing areas.

He added that existing charitable establishments in the country can distribute alms and donations to poor people. Begging is considered an uncivilized phenomenon and against Islam, the source said.

KUNA reporters who observed beggars at a mosque found that some women who came for the express purpose of begging brought children with them to collect money from worshippers after end of prayers.

They went to houses nearby after completing their work in the mosque. The women kept their faces covered most of the time but were seen removing their veils after completing their rounds of house to house begging.

Networks
Undersecretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Mohammed Naser Al Hamdhan described the phenomenon of begging as a job aiming to collect money easily. He added that there are gangs and networks running these beggars who distribute them over mosques.

He added that his ministry tried fighting this phenomenon through the Friday sermons at mosques which explained to worshippers the necessity of not giving money to these beggars.

The ministry also prevented these beggars from entering mosques or stand near them. Beggars should go to the social and charitable societies and organisations if they need money.

But he expressed his sorrow that some citizens protect these beggars by preventing security men from arresting them or take



A young girl seen begging outside a mosque in Kuwait.

them away from the mosque claiming arresting the poor is prohibited in Islam.

Hamdhan pointed out that relevant authorities should co-operate to put an end to this problem and provide solutions for it. Citizens can play an active role in stopping this phenomenon by withholding alms and referring beggars to Zakat committees of mosques and other charitable establishments which can help them and give them the money they need, he said.

Charity
The director-general of Zakat House Fuad Al Omar said that beggary is considered a crime. Begging can be accepted if there is no charitable establishment or committee that are established for helping poor people he said.

Begging in a country full of charitable establishments is considered an insult to the country beside posing security hazards because these beggars go to houses and that can encourage them to steal these homes, he added.

He referred the problem to the

absence of co-ordination among relevant authorities beside the citizens who are not aware of dangers posed by these beggars.

Zakat House has tried several times to help put an end to this phenomenon. It called on these beggars to visit the house and submit applications to receive donations that they deserve. Hamdhan said. But they did not respond to the call except one who put up a condition to get a monthly donation of KD450 if he stopped begging.

This shows that beggars get too much money from begging

which means that they aim to make a fortune and not only to eke a living. Hamdhan suggested the setting up of a committee from ministries of Awqaf, Social Affairs and Interior as well as Zakat House to study this phenomenon and fight it.

Director of Social Services Department of Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour Mohammed Al Subaih has said that the department has observers to chase and arrest beggars at mosques.

But he added that some citizens prevent them from performing their job believing that these beggars need help. He added that the Ministry of Social Affairs takes care of all needy people whether they are Kuwaitis or non-Kuwaitis which refer them to Zakat House for help and support.

He added that some people who get donations from Zakat House beg to increase their income. He added that many of these beggars do not have residence permits and are a threat to security.

Meanwhile the director of security at the Capital Governorate Colonel Salman Hassan Abdul Raheem has said that the governorate has work teams which continuously fight the begging menace teams receive notification from citizens so that these beggars can be arrested and deported. The Interior Ministry refers Kuwaiti beggars to the Ministry of Social Affairs to stop the social donation given to them by the ministry and deport the non-Kuwaitis, he said.

Agricultural credit to farmers

THE General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fisheries will provide a total of KD700,000 as agricultural credits to facilitate farmers to obtain agricultural machineries, good quality wheat seeds and chemical fertilisers.

A source at the authority told a local daily that agricultural experts will provide farmers with

the required guides for the cultivation of wheat.

Technicians from the authority held field visits to guide farmers. A total of 239 farmers at Al Wafra and Abdalli areas accepted the offer and the total areas of cultivated land amounted to 163,000 square metres. Indicators confirm that the experiment was successful and that it is now at its final stages.

Sheikh Saad arrives in Jordan for official talks

AMMAN, May 1, (AP): Sheikh Saad Abdullah Al Sabah, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait, arrived in Jordan today for talks with senior officials.

The visit comes amid reports that the oil-rich states of the Gulf Co-operation Council were discussing additional aid to Jordan, where economic difficulties triggered four days of rioting last month.

Prime Minister Zeid Bin Shaker and other senior officials were on hand at Amman airport to meet Sheikh Saad.

Kuwait's Acting Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, told reporters in Kuwait yesterday the visit "stems from the special fraternal relations existing between Kuwait and Jordan."

Blame

Jordan's King Hussein has blamed his country's economic difficulties on the failure of richer Arab states to fulfil a 1978 pledge of \$12.5 billion in aid, spread over 10 years.

Only Saudi Arabia met its commitment.

Despite its continuing failure to receive the full amount, Jordan borrowed heavily over the past decade and built up \$6 billion in debts, some \$1.2 billion of it due this year.

The country needs at least \$200 million in Arab aid to balance its budget this year.

It has moved to slash government spending and restrict imports to help it cope with low levels of foreign exchange reserves.

An agreement with the International Monetary Fund to raise government revenues as part of a loan rescheduling effort led Jordan last month to raise prices for cigarettes, gasoline and other commodities by 10 to 50 percent.

The price hike triggered four days of rioting throughout southern Jordan in which at least nine people died.



Amir fetes soccer trophy winners

HH the Amir congratulating Qadsiya Club captain Faisal Al Dakheel at an Iftar banquet which HH held yesterday in honour of the winners of the Amir Cup 1988/89. Qadsiya trounced Al Arabi 2-1 at a match held Wednesday.

New methods needed for food hygiene

Worst cases of poisoning in April

APRIL is the most common period when food poisoning occurs in Kuwait, which is attributed to weather and temperature changes. Head of the Preventive Health Department at the Ministry of Health, Dr Jafer Dawood said.

Commenting on the latest poisoning cases at the police academy and the National Guard during the month of Ramadan, Dawood said that group poisoning cases began appearing in Kuwait after large numbers of labourers were needed for some projects. Such groups needed new methods of catering, different from traditional ones. He said that sometimes, meals are carried from a central kitchen to other places, a process that usually requires new techniques and many precautions. There are many causes of poisoning, but the most dangerous is bacteria especially the salmonella species, the official said.

Although there are very advanced equipment and methods for preserving food, poisoning does occur due to human error.

The ministry analyses each poisoning case in a bid to determine causes and prevent it taking place once again. Food samples are thoroughly examined and analysed as also the premises and similarly all persons involved will be comprehensively examined. Inquiries are also conducted on poisoned patients and on the basis of all the information gathered, a study is made. Speedy actions are then taken to avoid any further results.

Health book
Dawood said that the Ministry of Health examines workers and employees in restaurants and those involved in catering services. Only healthy, and disease-free persons are granted permits or the so called "Health Books". But he said that this examination takes place only once every year and such workers may become patients in between

and thus contribute to poisoning.

He recommended continuous supervision over restaurant employees and workers and on shops dealing with foodstuffs. He said that most poison cases were caused by mismanagement inside the kitchens or by a lack of proper management.

The Ministry of Health has an emergency room and a team of specialists to attend to any urgent poisoning cases.

The team promptly takes all necessary information and determine the cause of poisoning within 48 hours.

Dawood also blamed some restaurants and catering companies for employing cheap and ignorant employees and cooks who have no proper background on food hygiene. He said that there are over 3,000 restaurants in Kuwait employing over 27,000 workers and it becomes difficult thus to impose strict overall supervision.

Workers at restaurants should be aware of poisoning and food preservation background, he added.

Report

However, Dawood stressed that the number of poisoning cases in Kuwait are rare compared to other countries. Moreover, group poison cases are very limited here, whereas in some countries complete towns may be poisoned. He emphasised that the ministry publishes all facts of poisoning to the public. The Ministry of Health pays particular attention before granting permission for the establishment of any food factory with respect to its locations and the materials used. The ministry has a representative at the Kuwait Municipality's foodstuff division. The municipality analyses food samples at the ministry's laboratories. Poison cases occurred because the municipality did not take the opinion of the Ministry of Health in methods and ways of preparing

and distributing group meals.

Meanwhile, a statistical study prepared by the Poison Information Centre of the Amir Hospital for the year 1987, said that 1,641 poison cases were admitted to the government hospitals. The study said that poison cases formed 2.6 per cent of patients admitted to hospitals and that 88 persons per 100,000 of the population were poisoned during 1987. The study added that children were the prime target of poison cases as children formed 57.5 per cent of the victims (children less than 5 years old). Children between 5-14 years formed 5.7 per cent and adults 36.8 per cent.

This was the third study on poison cases in Kuwait. The first two studies were made in 1984 and 1985-1986.

The study said that the number of poison cases in 1984 was 941, 1,236 in 1985 and 1,387 in 1986. The study showed that 73 per cent of the poisoned children were between 1-3 years.

Major group poison cases in Kuwait since 1983:

— 300 Filipino workers were poisoned after taking a dinner meal in June 83.

— 175 employees of KISR in Fob 84 after taking a meal of tikka with rice.

— 17 students of Fire Training School in April 84 after taking sandwiches from a Salmiya restaurant.

— 146 soldiers of National Guards in May 86 after taking dinner.

— 13 nurses at the nurses residence of Mubarak Al Kabir hospital in Aug 87.

— 123 non commissioned officers at the police academy in Oct 87.

— Over 70 primary school students after taking egg sandwiches from the school in Sept 87.

— 391 of the police academy on 8/4/89 after taking "Ifar" meal.

— 98 soldiers of national Guards on April 21 after taking "Ifar".

NHA to distribute flats and houses after Eid

MINISTER of State for Housing Affairs Nasser Al Roudhan has said that the National Housing Authority will distribute the flats of Sawabir housing project to applicants after the Eid Al Fitr holiday. He added that the ministry does its best to avoid any mistakes or problems in the construction of these houses, although mistakes have occurred in the past.

Meanwhile, the NHA's assistant director-general for distribution affairs, Fareed

Al Ajeel, has said the authority will distribute a new group of 527 government houses in the west Fintas housing project during the coming two months. He added that the authority distributed the last group of these houses in the same project last February. The houses will be given to citizens who submitted applications before June 1978.

Ajeel added that the authority will distribute the fourth group from Qurain

housing project, or 200 from a total of 7,451 houses, also over the next two months.

The authority will also distribute 143 houses at Naseem housing project in Jahra after the end of Eid Al Fitr, he said.

The NHA assistant director-general for application affairs, Ahmed Al Samaka, has said the authority will start paying rent allowances for citizens who deserve them as of July. The Ministry of Social Affairs

and Labour will continue paying the allowance for 9,000 citizens until that date, he said. The Council of Ministers decided to transfer authority for paying rent allowances from the ministry to the NHA. The authority is preparing office to distribute the allowance through the local banks, and will not ask citizens to bring any document to get the allowance because the documents submitted with applications of government houses are sufficient.

Qurain project

THE Public Health Minister and chairman of the Environmental Protection Council Abdul Razzaq Al Abdul Razzaq yesterday presided over a meeting by the council to discuss a report on the environmental hazards posed by the Qurain housing project, refuse and the growing hazard of air contamination by exhaust pipe smoke.

The committee engaged in studying the hazards of the Qurain project, said in its report that the problem is caused by the emission of methane gas into the air.

The council set a two-month deadline for the committee to wrap up its study.

UMO decries Indian vegetables price hike

UNITED Malayalee Organisation (UMO) has expressed and raised their voice in the price hike of Indian vegetables from 600 fils/kilogramme to 700 fils/kilogramme by the local agents of Indian vegetable importers in Kuwait.

UMO has urged through their statement to importers to reconsider this decision, since it touches all the Indian community.

When vegetables were being sold 600 fils/kilogramme the exchange rate of freight charge per kilogramme was I.Rs. 21/-

(exchange rate on 24-2-1988 for Rs. 1,000 was KD21.260 i.e. Rs. 47.00/one dinar) has come down to I.Rs. 18.00 (now KD 18.330/ I.Rs 1,000.00).

The exchange difference of KD3/- (Rs. 164) almost has come for I.Rs. 1,000/- during this time. Taking this situation into consideration, instead of reducing the prices, the prices are increased and this is not justifiable. UMO has said in their statement. They also noted that no price hike took place in the price of vegetables locally in

Indian markets.

Freight charges per kilogramme from Bombay was Rs 10.20, which is the same even now without any change. There is only a nominal freight charge hike from Trivandrum to Kuwait. (i.e. from Rs 11.70/kilogramme to Rs 13.00/kilogramme). This small raise is negligible compared to the exchange difference of KD3/- per Rs. 1,000 which has now occurred. Hence the increase of 100 fils/kilogramme (Rs. 5.50/kilo) is not justified.

Wholesale dealers of Indian vegetable importers as well as Indian newspaper importers are raising the prices of vegetables and newspapers regularly with out proper and substantial reasons and the public is to be aware of these things. UMO urged.

Vegetables coming from Bombay, Trivandrum, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh are sold at the same rate when the freight charges are more in the latter cases, which is not reasonable. UMO statement continued.

The price hike is announced and charged during the holy month of Ramadan, where such hike in the price of food items are not permitted by the concerned ministry in Kuwait, it is learned.

While considering the rising cost of living and no increment in salaries in most of the private companies, where most of the Indians are working, the wholesale vegetable and Indian newspaper importers should reconsider their decision to raise these. UMO has expressed full confidence in them that they will reconsider in the interest of the public.

Astronomy section to open at Science Club in November

AN astronomy section will be opened at the Kuwait Scientific Club next November, according to deputy board chairman Adnan Yusuf Al Mair. He stressed that preparations for the establishment of the section comes within the club's policy which calls for giving members, society individuals and students the opportunity to benefit from what the section will provide them in terms of data, programmes and applications on modern international technology.

In an interview with a local daily, Mair added that the new section will have an important role in conducting some of the scientific experiments connected to devices used in satellite telecommunications.

Contacts
He said the club will organise special courses on satellite applications and technical systems. The club is currently contacting some countries which have astronomical facilities regarding co-operation possibilities. Mair explained that the club has signed an agreement with one of the American scientific institutes that has links with NASA in order to organise training courses for five club members who will be sent to the USA next July.

A group of scientists from NASA will visit the club next November to prepare measurements for establishing an astronomy camp, he added.

Egyptian armoured vehicles for Kuwait

BAGHDAD, May 1, (KUNA): Egypt is to deliver the first shipment of the armoured vehicles "Fahd" to Kuwait next month, head of the Arab Military Production Organisation General Ibrahim Orabi said here yesterday.

Orabi, who is taking part in the current Baghdad International Arms Exhibition, pointed out that a Kuwaiti army delegation would visit Cairo mid next month concerning shipment of the Egyptian-made armoured vehicles.

Sophisticated

In a press statement, he placed high importance on the joint Arab Co-operation to break monopoly of the foreign weapons industry, acquire the most sophisticated technology and train technical cadres and upgrade their expertise.

Egyptian-made military planes and equipment have been displayed in the Baghdad exhibition along with British, French, Soviet and Swiss planes and other military hardware.

Moroccan minister

KUWAIT, May 1, (KUNA): Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Abdul Latif Al Filali left here yesterday after delivering a message to his Highness the Amir from King Hassan II of Morocco.

BAHRAIN DIGEST

Exhibition to help construction

ARABBUILD 90, the 6th Middle East Building, Interiors and Maintenance Show, is scheduled to take place from November 19-22 1990 at Bahrain's Exhibition Centre.

In a statement issued to the Arab Times by the organisers Arabian Exhibition Management (AEM), ArabBuild 90 is widely expected to be one of the most important events since the show was launched in view of a major revitalisation and increasing buoyancy in the construction industry in Bahrain and throughout the region.

According to Brendon Jennings, Chief Executive of AEM, ArabBuild since its inception, has been instrumental in highlighting and promoting the latest construction equipment from around the world to the regional market in terms of quality and durability. He said since the economic boom in the late seventies when the region experienced peak construction activity, there has been a gradual upsurge in the area in this field.

Confidence

"The cessation of hostilities, the stabilising of oil prices and rising world demand have all contributed to a buoyant commercial atmosphere in the Gulf. By the time ArabBuild 90 is held there will be a major revival of the construction and building industry close to the boom years. Now that the Gulf war is over Iraq and Iran will particularly benefit from this prestigious event. The Gulf countries, in line with the increasing confidence in economic growth, will accelerate their various housing and building projects with the influx of incoming capital from overseas," said Jennings.

ArabBuild will reflect the shift in emphasis in the Middle East's building and construction market from primary construction equipment and services to operation and maintenance of the existing infrastructure, refurbishment and local taste for sophisticated interior decor — quality furnishings, fixtures and fittings, kitchen and bathrooms, floor and wall coverings, decorative lighting and furniture.

Bahrain's unique position as a major regional trading centre with easy access from Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and all the Gulf states, links the island directly with the Middle East's most rapidly industrialising area, the eastern province of Saudi Arabia.

Bahrain's own building and construction industry is very buoyant as plans are ahead to expand tourism and leisure facilities and to increase the country's industrial base with a view to replacing 30 per cent of imports with home produced products over the next 5 years.

ArabBuild 90 will provide an ideal marketing platform for companies wishing to demonstrate their products and expertise at the centre of a revitalised construction industry.

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Arafat asks Israel to pull out forces

French Jews protest visit

DAR ES SALAAM, May 1. (Agencies): PLO leader Yasser Arafat has called for Israel to withdraw its forces from the West Bank and Gaza Strip before conducting elections it has proposed for the occupied territories.

In a headline statement issued jointly with Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi, the PLO leader also condemned Israel for the "arbitrary" confiscation of Palestinian lands and hailed those killed in the 16-month-old Palestinian uprising as heroes.

Arafat, winding up a two-day visit to Tanzania, said 730 Palestinians have been wounded, 5,800 have been disabled by severe blows and 32,000 are in "concentration camps."

Israeli soldiers also have destroyed thousands of acres of fruit trees and levelled thousands of houses, Arafat charged in a news conference.

In a later departure statement issued jointly with Mwinyi, Arafat accused Israel of having a "sinister" policy which has led to the arbitrary confiscation of Palestinian lands in the occupied territories.

He called for Israel to withdraw immediately from all of the occupied territories, including Jerusalem.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's proposal for elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, put forward during a recent visit to Washington, is unacceptable as long as the territories are occupied by Israeli soldiers, Arafat said.

"You cannot have democracy without freedom," he said.

"Arafat said he saw a 'positive trend' in the new US administration of President Bush compared to that of Ronald Reagan. He welcomed the continued dialogue between the PLO and the United States opened by the Reagan administration, but cautioned that a real change in attitude would take time.

The Soviet Union has stepped up its diplomatic activity in the Middle East significantly with the appointment of a new special envoy to the region, it was revealed in London today.

The emissary is empowered to conduct shuttle diplomacy along the lines favoured by the American State Department and carried out most recently under the Reagan administration by Richard Murphy, the Times newspaper reported.

A senior Soviet official yesterday dismissed Shamir's proposal for elections as an attempt to set up a puppet Palestinian government.

"I think Shamir's proposals are quite far from the crux of the peace process and we opposed them... We think Shamir's proposal to set up a puppet government," Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told a news conference in Cairo.

"The elections would bring in Israeli agents," he added. Jordan's King Hussein discussed efforts to convene Middle East peace conference with a Soviet official yesterday, the state-run news agency Petra said. The King's talks with Gennady Tarasov, assistant to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, also covered Hussein's meeting with Bush in Washington last week.

Tarasov handed the king a letter from Shevardnadze on Middle East issues, including the Palestinian problem, Petra said.

An Israeli cabinet minister, meanwhile, said Israel should force democracy on Palestinians through elections. Minister-without-portfolio E-

Emergency refugee airlift in full swing

Kuwaiti envoy meets Mauritanian President

NOUAKCHOTT, May 1. (Agencies): Kuwait's State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Ossaimi last night met President of Mauritania Maouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Al Taya and discussed with him the clashes which recently broke out between Senegalese and Mauritians.

An official source said here that Ossaimi, who arrived yesterday, came to Mauritania to discuss the problem which erupted between Senegal and Mauritania.

HH the Amir of Kuwait, the current chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, sent Ossaimi to Nouakchott to deliver a message to Mauritania's President.

The Kuwaiti envoy will also visit Dakar, Senegal, to deliver a similar message to President Abdou Diouf.

Ethnic violence has flared again in West Africa as an emergency airlift between neighbouring Senegal and Mauritania brought home thousands of refugees from the harassment.

Transport planes from France, Spain and Morocco carried about 5,000 expatriate Senegalese and Mauritians to their homelands yesterday amid reports of continuing violence against Mauritians in the Senegal countryside. Algeria was due to join the airlift later with four military transport planes.

Since Friday, more than 50 Mauritians have been killed in Senegal by angry mobs retaliating for the slaying of an estimated 200 people — most of them Senegalese — last week in

Mauritania, according to unofficial reports.

The ethnic violence apparently was triggered by a border dispute between the two West African nations. The airlift was aimed at ending vendetta attacks against the expatriate Mauritanian and Senegalese communities in both countries.

There have been no reports of anti-Senegalese attacks in Mauritania since a bloody, two-day rampage last Monday and Tuesday. The government says it has no total of dead and injured,

but unofficial reports say as many as 400 people were killed. A dusk-to-dawn curfew declared on Tuesday in Nouakchott remained in effect yesterday.

In Dakar, scattered pillaging of Mauritanian-owned shops continued over the weekend despite a dusk-to-dawn curfew there.

Elsewhere in Senegal, 12 Mauritians were reported killed in the region of Touba, according to informed sources.

Israeli tactics

Ready for long haul

GAZA CITY, May 1. (AP): Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai, a bull-necked, blunt-spoken veteran of three wars, says Israel's Army will oust the Palestinians in daily street battles that have claimed at least 112 Arab lives in the Gaza Strip.

"We will never become tired. We will act as if the intifada is going to last for 100 years," he said. "It means the Israeli Army will carry out its mission with tenacity and sensitivity as long as it is ordered to do so by the government."

Mordechai, 44, head of the Israel's southern command, believes the only lasting solution to the Gaza Strip's chronic unrest is an international campaign to relocate the nearly 250,000 Palestinians who live in crowded refugee camps which spawned the Palestinian uprising.

Until that happens, Mordechai is prepared to dig in and direct the battle against the squads of Arab youths who throw stones at his cream-coloured Land Rover as it leads a convoy of jeeps through Gaza City's streets.

At a strategy session last week, Mordechai placed his black-handled .45 automatic on the desk in front of him and fired questions at two-dozen field officers packed into a situation room. Should he close a school where students had rioted? What about the mosques?

Avi, a studious-looking major with wire-rimmed glasses, argued that classrooms should be kept open to encourage as normal a life as possible.

Asaf, a white-haired veteran with a paunch, proposed closing the school for a month as a punishment. But he argued against shutting mosques, saying it could inflame Muslim fundamentalists. We don't want a holy war, he said.

Mordechai, who allowed a reporter to attend the review on condition he not quote soldiers verbatim, ended the debate with a lecture on the need to be sensitive during the holy month of Ramadan, when Muslims fast from dawn to dusk.

The Iraqi-born general recalled a recent three-hour meeting with Muslim elders in which Israeli officers, on his orders, refrained from eating, drinking or smoking in deference to the fast. He said the elders praised the Israelis afterwards for showing respect.

"We should use the same respect with the mosques," said Mordechai, who later demonstrated his fluency in Arabic by stopping to chat with Palestinian vegetable vendors and children on Omar Mukhtar street.

The Army has temporarily cut off access to six of the 60 mosques in the Gaza Strip and indefinitely shut 15 of the 260 schools. Officers say the schools and mosques have become rallying points for protesters since the Palestinian uprising began nearly 17 months ago.

French Jewish leaders have protested against Arafat's visit to Paris this week and are calling for mass silent vigils to honour victims of terrorism.

The PLO leader is scheduled to arrive tomorrow morning for a two-day visit, beginning with talks at the Elysee Palace with President Francois Mitterrand.

The representative Council of Jewish Institutions has appealed to the French to turn out in large numbers this evening in front of Jo Goldenberg's restaurant in central Paris, which was attacked by terrorists in August 1982.

Terrorists burst into the popular Jewish restaurant, spraying the place with machine-gun fire and killing six people, and injuring 21 others.

French ultra-right leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen said yesterday his movement, the National Front, stands against the visit of Arafat.

Talks between Mitterrand and Arafat will be an affront to Israel's friendship with France, Shamir said today.



Afghan rebels of the Hezb-i-Islami (Khalis) party fire at government troops near the besieged city of Jalalabad. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rebels destroy four planes

Afghan mujahedeen step up attack

ISLAMABAD, May 1. (AP): Muslim rebels in Afghanistan claimed yesterday that they destroyed four airplanes and a helicopter in a rocket attack on the Bagram Air Force Base 30 miles (50 kilometres) north of the Afghan capital.

It brings to eight the number of aircraft the insurgents claim to have disabled there since April 21.

The mujahedeen rebels' official Afghan News Agency said the latest attack occurred last Thursday, the 11th anniversary of the communist military coup that installed the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan in power.

There was no independent confirmation. Rebel sources reported heavy fighting north of Kabul, the capital, in addition to the eastern provinces of Nangarhar, Paktia and Kandahar.

Al Bunyan, a news service of fundamentalist guerrilla leader Abdul Rasul Sayyaf, said mujahedeen have killed 40 government troops, destroyed four tanks and shot down one jet at Kandahar city since April 15.

Twenty-five guerrillas died and 32 were wounded during the same period, Al Bunyan said. Mujahedeen have said Kandahar will be their second major target since the Feb 15 Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

However, their first assault on Jalalabad, capital of Nangarhar, is still at a stalemate after eight weeks of bitter fighting with casualties estimated in the thousands for both sides. Rebels claim to have made new gains in a key valley south of the city, but official Kabul media said communist troops repulsed the attack.

Ship captain told to stay till spill damage is settled

MANAMA, May 1. (UPI): The captain of an Indian supertanker, accused of causing an accident six days ago in which some 3.9 million gallons of crude poured into the Red Sea, will not be allowed to sail for Bombay until someone guarantees to pay for cleanup expenses, maritime sources said today.

"The skipper has been ordered to stay put until the questions of who pays for the damage is settled," one maritime source in the Red Sea said. Arabian port of Jeddah, where parts of the giant, 50 nautical miles-long oil slick have already begun to wash ashore, told United Press International.

The master of the 276,744-ton tanker Kanchoonga claimed his vessel ran aground on Wednesday on reefs some six nautical miles from the Yambu terminal near Jeddah, because of poor visibility.

But officials at the Jeddah Port Authority were quoted as saying Capt. S. Bagchi went off course in good weather, after using an outdated map and an unauthorized route.

First estimates placed the spill from the Bombay-bound fully laden tanker at some 5,000 tons or 1.3 million gallons, but later updates said the spill had grown to some 15,000 or 3.9 million gallons.

Iran sets collision course W. Germany denies charges of spying

BONN, May 1. (Agencies): The government yesterday strongly rejected charges by an Iranian newspaper that West Germany's diplomats in Tehran were "spies disguised as diplomats."

"The government vigorously denies these allegations," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Hanns Schumacher.

An Iranian newspaper on Saturday called for the expulsion of West German diplomats from Tehran because of their alleged involvement in a US espionage network.

Schumacher refused to comment on details of the newspaper editorial, saying the government has also rejected earlier claims that it had supported rocket development in Iraq.

West Germany recalled its ambassador from Tehran in February to protest Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini's calls for the death of British novelist Salman Rushdie.

Schumacher said "about a dozen" embassy staff members remained in Tehran. Iran has set a collision course with West Germany in what political analysts see as part of efforts to unite public opinion amid domestic economic and political problems.

"The question is why? Why should Iranians want to seriously irritate a country which has consistently kept good relations, possibly the best relations with Iran, among Western nations?" asked one Gulf-based European diplomat.

Some Iranian and Western political analysts believe that at least part of the answer is that Tehran wants to divert domestic public opinion from growing economic hardships like inflation and unemployment.

They say Iran would lose little if ties were broken with West Germany, which had relatively cordial relations with Tehran until the Salman Rushdie affair erupted in mid-February. And if Bonn made conciliatory overtures, the analysts said, Iran would gain because the united stand taken by the European Economic Community over the Rushdie affair would quickly disintegrate.

Last November, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher was the first senior foreign official to visit Iran, accompanied by a large group of West German industrialists, following the August ceasefire in Iran's eight-year war with Iraq. West Germany had by then become Iran's biggest non-oil trade partner and the industrialists were looking forward to huge contracts to rebuild Iran's shattered economy.

Hussein expresses sympathy with people

AMMAN, Jordan, May 1. (AP): King Hussein met yesterday with prominent residents of the riot-stricken city of Tafilah and expressed sympathy with their concerns, the official Jordan News Agency reported.

But leaders from the northern city of Salt failed to appear for a similar meeting at the palace yesterday, saying "the time was not ripe" to meet the monarch, according to sources who were invited to attend the gathering.

The King met Wednesday with residents of Maan, where the first riots broke out on April 18. They later spread to Tafilah, Salt and other cities in protests against 10 to 50 per cent price hikes for

cigarettes, gasoline and other commodities following more than a year of declining living standards. The rioting led Hussein to break off a trip to the United States and Britain to return home last week. He dismissed his old cabinet last Tuesday and named a new government on Thursday.

May Day protests

8 injured in Turkey

ISTANBUL, May 1. (Reuters): At least eight people were injured in clashes between police and demonstrators during banned May Day marches in Istanbul today, hospital sources said.

Eyewitnesses said police fired warning shots in the air to disperse marchers shouting slogans of outlawed leftist groups.

Clashes were reported near Istanbul's main Taksim Square, where several hundred riot police, backed by helicopters and armoured cars, had been on alert since dawn.

"We have one very seriously injured person... the other seven are trauma victims," a doctor at Taksim Hospital said.

"It seems they had been in a fight," another hospital source said of the injured.

More than 600,000 union workers, seeking wage rises of around 200 per cent over two years to compensate for inflation, had planned to attend rallies in Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir.

Authorities last week banned all May Day protests and drafted in extra police to Turkey's major cities.

Save environment, Pope urges world

Malagasy woman beatified

ANTANANARIVO, Madagascar, May 1. (Agencies): Noting the grave ecological problems facing Madagascar and other Third World nations, Pope John Paul II has called for an international effort to combat the destruction of the environment.

"It is urgent that the international community give itself both the legal and technical means to guarantee the protection of the environment," the pontiff said yesterday on the third day of Madagascar visit.

John Paul was to leave this afternoon for the nearby French island of Reunion, before heading tomorrow for Zambia then Malawi.

Saving this 225,000-square-mile (583,000-square-kilometre) island that split from the African mainland more than 150 million years ago has become a priority of many international environmental groups.

Ninety per cent of the island's plants and animals are found nowhere else, including hundreds of species of orchids and 29 species of lemurs, small primates whose name derives from the Latin word for ghost because of their nocturnal habits.

The destructive farming methods of the island's population, constantly seeking fresh terrain to plant rice and other crops, has caused massive deforestation.

The Mozambique Channel, off the island's west coast, is so red from the infusion of soil washed in by erosion that it is clearly recognisable to astronauts circling the globe.

Since his arrival on his fifth African tour, the Pope had been

talking about the economic problems facing Madagascar and other Third World nations.

His comments on the environmental threat, made at a gathering of foreign diplomats, made it clear he supports international efforts to halt the dumping of toxic wastes in poor countries and development that endangers the world's remaining rain forests.

Also yesterday, the pontiff beatified a Malagasy woman credited with keeping the faith alive 100 years ago after the queen had banned all Roman Catholic services.

Victoire Rasoamanarivo was beatified in a three-hour service before a crowd estimated by local organisers at 500,000, about half the capital's population.

Beatification is a first step toward possible sainthood. Mrs Rasoamanarivo, who died in 1894 at 46, is considered the saviour of the Roman Catholic church in this nation of 11 million people, 22 per cent of whom are Catholic.

The granddaughter of a prime minister, she converted to the faith at 13, to the consternation of her pagan parents.

Later, the Pope offered his blessing to prisoners in Madagascar, noting, without elaborating, that some face a "very painful situation."

The Pope today denounced Western efforts to impose "contraceptive imperialism" on the Third World and reiterated his opposition to artificial birth control and abortion.

See Rich countries Page 10

BRIEFS

Egypt to produce fighter parts

BAGHDAD, May 1. (Reuters): Egypt has signed a contract to manufacture parts for the US-designed F-16 fighter plane, the head of its state-run armaments company said yesterday.

"The contract will allow Egypt to produce the F-16 parts... as a prelude for concluding major contracts in the future," said Lieutenant-General Ibrahim Gabali, chairman of Egypt's Arab Organisation for Industrialisation.

He said the contract was signed with a US company which he did not name.

Wrong sort of people

CAIRO, May 1. (Reuters): An Egyptian court has disbanded 78 deputies whose own parties said they were the wrong sort of people to have in parliament.

The parties charged after elections in 1987 that the Interior Ministry chose too many labourers and farmers from their lists of candidates and not enough intellectuals and professionals.

The opposition accused the ministry of giving the government an advantage in debate.

News on hostages

LONDON, May 1. (KUNA): The Archbishop of Canterbury has received news concerning the British hostages in Lebanon from a "contact" in Cyprus, it was reported here today.

Robert Runcie said he was optimistic that efforts to secure the release of his envoy Terry Waite, which have been in abeyance since the Salman Rushdie affair, would resume soon.

Kurds welcome Danielle

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey, May 1. (Reuters): Turkish Kurds gave Danielle Mitterrand, wife of French President Mitterrand, a warm welcome yesterday at the start of a potentially controversial visit to south-east Turkey.

Hundreds of well-wishers showered her with flowers, clapped, shouted greetings and waved French flags on her arrival at Diyarbakir airport.

Tabari dies in Tehran

ATHENS, May 1. (UPI): A founding member of Iran's pro-Moscow Tudeh (Communist) Party, Ehsan Tabari, died in Tehran of heart and kidney failure at age 72, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said yesterday.

Tabari, who helped found the Tudeh Party in 1941, and had to flee Iran six years later after an assassination attempt against the late Shah, died on Saturday in a Tehran hospital of heart and kidney failure, after a long illness.

After living in self-exile for more than 30 years in the Soviet Union and East Germany, Tabari returned to Iran when the 1979 revolution brought spiritual and political leader Ayatollah Khomeini to power.

12-day holiday for Eid

NICOSIA, May 1. (Reuters): Saudi Arabia begins a 12-day public holiday today as the holy month of Ramadan draws to a close, the official Saudi Press Agency reported yesterday.

The festival of Eid al-Fitr, marking the end of the Muslim fasting month, is likely to begin on Friday or Saturday, depending when the new moon is sighted.

Government offices, banks and many private businesses will be closed until May 13.

Drug traffickers executed

NICOSIA, May 1. (Reuters): Iran hanged 10 drug traffickers in public squares in Tehran and other cities yesterday, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

An Islamic revolution committee commander said earlier this month that more than 430 drug smugglers had been executed since a new drug law came into effect on January 21, IRNA received in Nicosia, reported.

Those executed yesterday had handled at least 480 kg (more than 1,000 pounds) of opium and had previous records for fraud and theft, IRNA quoted a statement from the Iranian anti-drug headquarters as saying.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NOTHING is really work unless you rather would be doing something else — Sir James Barrie, Scottish writer (1860-1937).

Calypso see-saw

Manley back in power

By Jerome L. McElroy

THE return of socialist Michael Manley as Prime Minister of Jamaica in February's decisive electoral victory over Edward Seaga, the so-called "Caribbean Reagan," suggests widespread popular discontent among the island's 2.3 million inhabitants over Seaga's pro-market economic policies. Despite heavy doses of capitalist medicine — rising tourism, open trade, aid, and reduced taxes and government intervention — average living standards for Jamaica's poor majority have continued to decline between 1980 and the present. The same erosion in per capita incomes occurred before when Manley followed roughly the opposite policies between 1972 and 1980, and was ousted by Seaga.

Why this political see-saw in Jamaica, and in the Caribbean arena generally?

Stable, pro-capitalist, pro-Western democracies do not easily thrive atop fragile island economies. These unstable economies cannot support a broad, permanent middle class that would, in the electoral process, ensure the continuity of political moderation.

In the British West Indies the past two decades have witnessed dozens of elections that have effected the peaceful transfer of power toward relatively moderate governments. But there have been notable exceptions: socialist regimes in Jamaica and Guyana, and the Marxist experiment in Grenada.

Much of this political discontinuity is due to harsh Caribbean economic reliance on tourism and a few exports like bauxite, sugar, bananas, and spices. Such industries are overly sensitive to recessions in industrial countries, their primary markets. This instability is further intensified by commodity price fluctuations, currency realignments, and periodic natural disasters.

For example, when health-conscious Americans shift to artificial sweeteners, the Caribbean sugar industry is thrown into depression and long-term layoffs. When the dollar falls in value, essential imports from Europe become unusually expensive. Hurricanes like last summer's Gilbert devastate agriculture and disrupt communications for months. It may take years to rebuild destroyed housing stock and commercial facilities.

Economic instability strains the democratic framework. Periodic crises promote the flight of capital and the emigration of entrepreneurs and middle-class professionals who have the most to lose from persistent vacillations and long-term uncertainty.

What elements are left after the exodus? First, there is intense political participation, not only because of high literacy rates and small country size, but also because political expression has always been more accessible than economic mobility. Second, political dissatisfaction runs deep because the dominant problems of unemployment and imported food and fuel inflation are beyond local solutions. Third, repeated failures to improve the situation produce repressive tactics by incumbents to quell discontent as well as a propensity for political experimentation among dissidents.

These ingredients provide a recipe for sometimes volatile political changeovers as the pendulum of power swings back and forth between coalitions led by the conservative, pro-market mercantile elite and the more left-leaning popular parties embracing urban labourers and the rural poor. These low-income groups, the base of Manley's strength in Jamaica, for example, frequently form an electoral majority that can rock the traditional system. Because of their economic marginality, they have weak attachments to existing political arrangements.

As a result, in the absence of a middle-class stronghold and in a climate of continuing economic crisis and political frustration, the machinery of democracy has no built-in tendency to keep it on course. Since economic benefits are limited and not widely shared, there is no guarantee of a permanent electoral majority to ensure political stability and continuity. Moderate socialist or even avowedly Marxist regimes can occasionally surface.

To help modify the economic instability and political fluidity of the region, US policy should firmly establish a long-term commitment to bolster the area's economy, rather than slip again into the familiar groove of short-term military interventionism (Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada) when matters get out of hand.

Such a commitment means first maintaining a vigorous US economy, since America is the region's foremost commercial partner. The Caribbean Basin Initiative — promising wider US markets, private investment, and aid — is a favourable first step. Between 1983 and 1988, Caribbean manufacturing exports into the US (mainly electronics and textiles) have doubled in value.

The Christian Science Monitor

TODAY IN HISTORY

1526 — Protestant League of Germany is formed.

1536 — England's Queen Anne Boleyn is sent to Tower of London and eventually is beheaded.

1565 — Knights of St John defend Malta from Turks.

1608 — Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle is signed between France and Spain.

1734 — Spanish Army under Don Carlos captures Naples.

1813 — Napoleon Bonaparte defeats Prussian and Russian armies at Lutzen, Germany.

1826 — Peter IV waives right of accession to Portugal's throne in order to remain in Brazil.

1895 — British South Africa Company territory south of Zambesi is organised as Rhodesia.

1933 — Adolf Hitler abolishes trade unions in Germany.

1945 — Berlin surrenders to Soviet forces in World War II.

1959 — Afro-Asian Organisation for Economic Co-operation, meeting in Cairo, Egypt, votes to exclude Soviet Union.

1963 — Chinese seamen rescued from freighter that sank in Yellow Sea claim their ship was torpedoed by unidentified submarine.

1967 — British Prime Minister Harold Wilson's Labour government decides to seek membership in European Common Market.

1986 — Sikh extremists kill seven people outside holy town of Amritsar, India.

1987 — Muslim rebels in the Philippines threaten to renew hostilities unless substantial progress is made in negotiations on autonomy for 23 southern provinces.

1988 — Children's hospital collapse in India's northern state of Kashmir, killing at least 14 people.



A Soviet soldier on duty in East Germany

Moscow's invisible Army

380,000 Soviet troops in East Germany

By Martin Nesirky

THE 380,000 Soviet troops in East Germany are by far Moscow's largest military contingent on foreign soil and probably its best-equipped.

They must also rank as just about the most invisible army anywhere.

Few regions of East Germany are without Soviet military installations packed with the latest tanks, fighter aircraft, missiles and other hardware — but these are always strictly off limits and often deep inside forests away from public view.

And although officers can go shopping or travel with their families, ordinary soldiers — all doing two years' national service — are rarely seen except on chaperoned tourist trips or during exhausting route marches.

"The wall of regulations surrounding Soviet soldiers is all but unprecedented among troops serving abroad. There is simply no such thing as a pass (to leave barracks)," wrote a reporter in the Soviet weekly Literary Gazette last year.

Barracks in towns are high-walled and well-guarded. Bigger camps and enormous training areas lie in the forests that seem to cover vast tracts of the country.

Many civilians grumble that contact with "the friends," as Russians are mockingly called in East Germany, often heralds bad news anyway. They cite traffic accidents, rapes and fights, although these are not necessarily widespread occurrences.

The soldiers have a tough life of relentless training, poor rations, almost no leave and just 25 marks (\$13.6) a month pocket money. Soviet officers and Western intelligence sources say.

Defence experts consider them Moscow's elite forces, although Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Yazov said last December he was not satisfied with standards.

The group of Soviet forces in Germany (GSFG) has existed since 1945 and retains the name it took after the post-World War Two carve-up of the defeated Nazi Reich.

The GSFG now comprises 10 tank divisions with over 5,000 tanks, nine motorised rifle divisions, an artillery division and assorted specialist regiments. There is also an air force with 685 combat aircraft, including the latest MiG-29 fighter.

The Soviet contingent is more than twice the size of East Germany's total armed forces of 176,000 men.

"It's an awesome force to keep in a small country, although the GDR (East Germany) has immense strategic value being on the East-West divide," said one Western military expert.

Under cuts pledged by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev last December, 50,000 troops and 5,000 tanks are to be withdrawn from East Germany, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

The official move from East Germany starts on May 11 and two tank divisions will be gone by August, to be followed by two more. Some paratroopers have already been withdrawn.

Accompanying the withdrawal is what Soviet strategists are calling a radical rethink of military doctrine that puts Russian forces on a far more defensive footing than hitherto.

NATO has long viewed the GSFG and its offensive structure as a major threat to the West.

At GSFG exercises last week foreign observers and reporters watched hostile "blue" forces roar across a sandy plain, supported by helicopter gunships. "Orange" defenders, who were initially overrun, fought back to retake lost ground.

But rather than forging on into enemy territory as tactics previously required, the troops stopped dead at the imagined border as if to emphasise the new defensive strategy.

Observers said the symbolism was all-important to the Russians, but the NATO would need to sell far more evidence and more cuts before they were convinced the switch in posture was for real and for good.

They and the journalists said just as enlightening for them were conversations with GSFG officers and soldiers.

One young lieutenant disclosed vodka had been on sale again in garrison shops since January after a four-year ban, but that conscripts were still barred from imbibing.

"If they do get out of the barracks, they'll do just about anything to get hold of a bottle. They sell watches or use their precious pay. They'll drink anything, even East German vodka," he said, wrinkling his nose with disdain.

Another officer, commander of three ultra-modern T-80 tanks, lamented how his wife could not find work at the Soviet bases in East Germany. Married officers serve five-year tours.

One colonel said his wife avoided boredom by monitoring the Soviet press for him. "There's so much to read these days, so my wife picks out the best stuff for me," he said.

Surprisingly, the colonel let his junior officers ride in the bus taking journalists from one exercise ground to the next.

"Why not, if you can find a seat," he told a lieutenant.

As well as talking about which West German television channels they watched and the difficulty in understanding the lyrics of the rock group Dire Straits, the officers in the bus also opened up about the merits of NATO and Soviet tanks.

How did he know so much about Britain's challenger and the US Abrahams M-1, one reporter asked a tank commander.

"You study every last detail in our military journals and newspapers. We do just the same," he replied with an evasive grin that showed there are still some limits to military glasnost. (Reuter)

Reagan fading into obscurity

By Ruth Sinal

WHEN organizers at Arizona State University invited Ronald Reagan to give a speech last month, less than one-fourth of the 10,000 tickets were sold and the former president agreed to waive his \$50,000 fee.

Reagan, the "great communicator" who commanded huge audiences until he left office three months ago, is dropping rapidly off America's political radar. At this rate, he will settle soon into comfortable obscurity with presidential has-beens Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter.

Another former president, Richard Nixon, retains somewhat more visibility through writing on international political issues.

Was there any reason to think that Reagan's immense popularity during his office would translate into prominence in retirement?

Probably not, presidency watchers agree. They differ, however, on whether it's the nature of the man or the nature of the system which is responsible.

Reagan, 78, still works hard in his office atop a Los Angeles skyscraper, his aides say. He writes speeches on such favourite topics as the need for a constitutional amendment to require balanced budgets, and an end to the eight-year limit on presidents' terms in office. He has joined the board of the conservative magazine National Review and is planning to write his memoirs.

But he has been virtually mum on the presidency of his successor, George Bush, and he is rarely mentioned in Washington. The only prominent notice he received in recent months was when the White House conceded that chief of staff John Sununu admonished aides to refrain from unfavourable comparisons between the relaxed President Reagan and the more active Bush.

"It's not unusual and not at all atypical historically for a former president to slip from sight," said Stephen Hess, a presidential scholar at the Brookings Institution, an independent think tank.

The advent of a new president is accompanied by a flurry of media attention and public curiosity, Hess said, and the former White House occupant generally just drifts away from power.

Some former presidents have returned to the spotlight as elder statesmen several years later, coming back into vogue once a historical perspective of their presidency has been established. Such was the case with Harry Truman, who left office in 1953 an unpopular leader but was seen in a far more favourable light in the 1960s and until he died in 1972.

Presidents who cannot bear the obscurity of retirement are rare. Theodore Roosevelt didn't want to be an ex-president so he ran against fellow Republican William Howard Taft in 1912. His run split the Republican vote and gave Democrat Woodrow Wilson the White House.

Another way for former presidents to steal the limelight is to take a shot at their successor. Thus, Jimmy Carter made news in 1981 when he criticized Reagan's budget proposal for placing too much emphasis on defense spending and not enough on domestic programmes.

"But most ex-presidents are obliging and they stay out of the hair of the current occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue (the White House)," said Benjamin Ginsberg, a professor of government at Cornell University.

Ginsberg and several other scholars and consultants believe Bush aides were particularly anxious that Reagan maintain a low profile for the time being.

"Bush lived in Reagan's shadow for eight years. Now he needs to establish himself as an independent and distance himself in some ways," Ginsberg said.

"Reagan is not about to upstage Bush," said Tom Korologos, a lobbyist and Reagan friend who once served the Nixon and Ford administrations as a legislative aide.

"Reagan did more for Bush than any other president has done for his VP, and now he knows it's time to get out of the picture," he said.

Bush himself doesn't mention his predecessor very often as he seeks to subtly move away from some of the domestic and foreign policies known as the Reagan legacy.

For example, in reaching a compromise agreement with Congress on the Nicaragua Contras, Bush effectively killed future military aid to the rebels — a cause dear to Reagan's heart.

"It's a mark of Reagan's respect for Bush that he has bitten his lip and avoided statements even on the things he felt so passionately about like the Contras," said Stuart Eizenstat, who served as Carter's domestic policy adviser and is currently a political consultant.

Reagan's wife, Nancy, has remained active in some causes she championed as first lady — particularly the fight against drugs. She was pictured recently, sporting a police windbreaker, accompanying California police in a raid on a suspected cocaine den. (AP)

US silence on Lebanon

Press slams indifference

By Carol Giacomo

LEBANON'S wrenching civil war has finally made its way back to the prominence of American front-page news headlines and in the process, put the new Bush administration on the defensive.

Along with expanded media coverage of the shelling of Beirut has come editorial scoldings against what some see as US indifference to death in Lebanon and Syria's role there.

"The Bush administration has reacted to French and other appeals to get involved by making a plaintive public recital of its inability to bring influence to bear in Damascus," the Washington Post said in an editorial.

"But why make such a big display on American detachment and incapacity? ... Why not keep trying to embarrass Syria into lowering its guns?" the newspaper wrote.

This and other public criticism, including a rally outside the White House last week by about 4,000 Lebanese-Americans, has apparently begun to sting administration policymakers.

Joe Jabre of the American Lebanese League, a private group of Americans of Lebanese descent, said President George Bush hinted in a meeting later he may shift to a more aggressive public condemnation of Syria for its role in the bombardment.

For the moment, however, officials say the United States is relying on intense private diplomacy involving Syria and Kuwait, leader of an Arab League ceasefire initiative.

"What we're looking for is for Arabs to bring pressure on Syria to lighten up. Then we can look for reciprocal acts from the Christians," one senior US official said.

Syria, which has had troops in Lebanon since 1976 and controls most of the country, has joined its Lebanese Muslim allies in fierce shelling of Christian areas since March 14.

The lack of a specific US initiative to help end Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war "does not mean that the United States does not care," State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler insisted this week.

As evidence, she cited a two-year-old US programme providing \$14 million annually in food aid to 135,000 Lebanese families and disclosed that Secretary of State James Baker attended a special Roman Catholic mass recently to demonstrate "his support for the suffering people of Lebanon."

Such peripheral US involvement contrasts with the very direct role the administration is now playing in trying to evolve a process to settle the broader Arab-Israeli conflict.

It wasn't always so. In 1982 and 1983, the United States, under President Ronald Reagan, tried to broker an agreement for withdrawing Israeli troops from Lebanon and also committed US Marines to an international peacekeeping force in Beirut.

But when 241 American servicemen were killed in a terrorist bomb attack on their barracks, the United States pulled back.

Washington briefly re-engaged last year in a failed move with Syria to get Lebanese Christians and Muslims to reform their constitution and elect a new president.

With this legacy, the new Bush team tried to sidestep new calls for US peacemaking, either alone or with the French.

Baker, who calls Lebanon a "very intractable" problem, has admitted Washington has "scant influence" with Damascus.

"I don't know what else frankly we could do" beyond condemning the fighting and endorsing ceasefire calls, said Baker, a political pragmatist.

America's Lebanese community was slow to galvanise itself on the issue. Five weeks after the shelling began, it staged the rally outside the White House, secured a meeting with Bush and ran newspaper advertisements saying "Stop Syrian massacre in Lebanon."

Congress has been largely quiet.

Shoddy criticism

SIR: I read with some surprise Diane Diaz' write-up of the Kuwait School of Contemporary Dances' 15th season. I waited until I had seen the programme on Thursday (April 25th) before commenting.

I saw the WHOLE programme unlike your staff writer, who should have at the very least done that and who did not even do the courtesy of considering the lighting, the costumes and the general atmosphere.

I said most others, thought that the whole presentation was exceptional, the lighting excellent, the costumes very attractive and the dancers, in spite of being so rudely criticised, kept their cool in a most professional manner and danced with verve, feeling and emotion. After all their ages range between 13 and 17 years, they are not full-time dancers and yet under the guidance of an expert and their own hard work produced a most professional evening of which anyone could be proud.

It was designed to be an evening of enjoyment not just for parents but others not connected with KSCD as well. The interval where the audience went into another room for coffee in a candle-lit atmosphere was most pleasant, but as Diane Diaz presumably did not stay long enough she was not aware of that either.

Having seen all performances of the past fifteen years, and watched how the company has continually developed to its present high standard I can only say congratulations and long may KSCD be with us. Constructive criticism is always welcome, but a rather shoddy tearing to pieces is not much use to anyone.

J.S. Rajab Jabriya

Uncharitable mama

SIR: Hats off to your staff reporter Fathima Ahmed, who takes her valuable time to sneak into the troubled areas of the poor and needy expat workers, and bring their injustices to light.

In her report published in the AT April 25, on the unfortunate plight of 22 Lankan workers, she gives a vivid picture to the authorities and the general

public how badly some contractors humiliate the workers. These workers are treated as animals, but even animals need food and water for their survival. If they were millionaires, they would not have come to work as cleaners in a country so far away from their loved ones. They toil and sweat under trying conditions to send part of their income to their families and they should be paid for their hard labour.

How can one believe that these workers would be so bold enough to lie to the effect that they had not been paid for the work they have already performed, as charged by the so-called Mama and her deputy.

Not only has this Mama treated them indiscriminately, but has also gone to the extent of obtaining a pledge (perhaps their own request for deportation) which many of them would not have understood and signed under duress.

The company's failure to provide work permits or take the necessary steps to give its workers the Civil ID cards, seem to be against the law of the country. Perhaps, Mama wants these workers be caught by the authorities for want of necessary legal papers for their residence, and get them deported automatically.

The host government of Kuwait is always sympathetic towards the poor and those who are in need of their charity. For this reason, many countries around the globe, especially the Third World nations pay a great tribute to Kuwait.

As workers sharing the same sense of feelings of the 22 Lankan employees, we hope that the authorities will be fair and firm enough to see that the justice is meted out to these helpless workers.

Anula Edirisinghe Safat

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Musavi outlines policy

Iran may privatise hundreds of firms

NICOSIA, Cyprus, May 1. (AP): The government of Iran may sell hundreds of government-owned firms to the public, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said yesterday.

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said that Iran's latest reconstruction policy calls for selling off billions of dollars in firms deemed non-essential for public security. The report said public companies had been offered for sale before, but usually on a much smaller scale through sales of shares to employees.

IRNA said the new policy was outlined in a document published by the daily Resalat newspaper last week. It said the policy had been given by Prime Minister

Hussein Musavi to the planning and budget minister for inclusion in the country's next five-year plan.

The IRNA report said it was unclear whether the policy was final or when it would be carried out.

But it said the policy was approved by the High Council of Reconstruction, which includes members of the executive, judicial and legislative branches of government.

When the budget was debated last month, several parliamentary deputies criticised the government for holding onto profitable firms at taxpayer expense.

Priority in the sale of companies will be given to employees and the families of

those killed in the 8-year war with Iraq, the report said.

IRNA quoted the policy as saying: "The state sector including ministries, government institutions, banks, state companies, the national industries organisation, etc are obliged in a specific period of time to issue public tenders for the sale of all their profitable or non-profitable production, service and trade units, with the exception of important and strategic units, or offer their shares to the people."

The policy paper also said priority should be given to repairing and expanding war-damaged oil industries and power plants. It said agriculture, the production of construction material and housing

should be the secondary priorities.

The oil sector should also concentrate on exporting natural gas, petrochemicals and other oil by-products instead of crude oil, IRNA quoted the policy paper as saying.

It also said financial resources from abroad could be used to pay for reconstruction, as long as they were balanced with foreign exchange earnings.

The agency quoted the report as saying: "The use of foreign resources must be with the total preservation of the interests and sovereignty of the Islamic Republic and within the foreign policy framework of the country and without the creation of the slightest political dependence."



A stock broker makes a desperate trading signal at the Tokyo Stock Exchange on Monday as shares rose to the fourth straight record closing of 33,793.17 after hitting a traded high of 33,800.75 (Reuters wirephoto)

Tokyo stocks hit record

Dollar climbs, gold eases

TOKYO, May 1. (Reuters): Subsidising fears of rising Japanese interest rates helped boost the Tokyo stock index to another record closing today, marking the fourth straight session of new highs, brokers said.

But trading was only modest ahead of a series of three Japanese holidays this week starting on Wednesday.

The 225-share Nikkei index closed up 79.82 points, or 0.23 per cent, to 33,793.17. On Friday, the index closed up 212.52 points.

The most important factor affecting interest rates is prices. And consumer prices are comparatively stable, said a broker at one of Japan's big four securities houses.

Rising interest rates are not so much of a worry as before, he added.

Interest-rate sensitive stocks dominated the advancing ranks, led by securities houses, real estate, transportation, steel, shipbuilding and other heavy industrials.

Low These companies are considered beneficiaries of a low interest-rate, easy-credit

environment in which prices of land and other assets soar, brokers said.

Heavy industrial firms are typically rich in assets and some have heavy debts which become cheaper to service when rates are low or falling, they added.

The dollar closed firmer in Tokyo, despite dollar sales by the Bank of Japan. It ended at the day's high of 133.90 yen and 1.8875 West German marks.

On Friday in New York, the dollar had finished trade at 133.00 yen and 1.8812 marks.

The Japanese central bank sold dollars for yen at least four times during the Tokyo day, both through brokers and through banks, dealers said. The bank sold about \$200 million in total, they estimated.

The dollar's ascent was aided by an absence of major sellers, such as exporters, due to the upcoming set of Japanese national holidays, dealers said.

Gold ended in Tokyo at around \$374.85 an ounce against \$377.55 in New York on Friday. Prices fell on fading concern over US inflation and lower oil prices, dealers said.

Australian stocks ended lower

in dull trade. The All Ordinaries index was down 9.4 points at 1,491.2.

In Hong Kong, stocks were little changed in late trading.

Minori Takeuchi of Chemical Bank said the Central Bank's intervention encouraged dollar-buying instead of pushing the currency down, as the bank had intended.

"Until the BOJ intervened, trading was rather quiet, with little fluctuation in the rate," she said.

"Because the BOJ's dollar-buying didn't work at all, investors were reconfirmed in their felling of the dollar's strength and continued to buy it," Ms Takeuchi said.

Demand She said the market's demand for the dollar is still strong because market players expect no immediate change in US economic policies such as maintaining high interest rates.

On the stock market, Daiwa Securities dealer Kenji Ishizuka said the market's main index rose in the afternoon session as institutional investors bought some 20,000 shares of each of the 225 issues in the index.

Energy File

Iran to build seventh oil refinery by 1992

NICOSIA, Cyprus, May 1. (AP): Iran has signed a \$1.8 billion contract with a consortium of Japanese and Italian firms for the construction of an oil refinery in the city of Arak. Tehran radio reported on Thursday.

The refinery, in central Markazi province, will be Iran's seventh, and will have a capacity of 150,000 barrels of oil per day, the radio said.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said that the signing of the contract was announced by Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh at a news conference in Tehran on Thursday.

According to the contract, the refinery is due for completion within 40 months, the radio quoted Aqazadeh as saying.

The oil minister said the agreement also calls for Iranian engineers to learn refinery design technology from the contractor while it is under construction.

The radio quoted Aqazadeh as saying state-of-the-art technology will be used in building the refinery.

Aqazadeh also said that oil exploration will start soon in the Caspian Sea.

He said that a contract had been signed with an unnamed Finnish company for manufacture of drilling cranes and service ships from the offshore project. The company is believed to be the Rauma Repola Group.

The Caspian exploration project will be carried out with help from the Soviet Union, which also borders the inland sea.

Aqazadeh said negotiations for hiring a drilling crane from the Soviet Union will be completed next month, and that preparations for drilling will begin immediately, the radio reported.

Oil discovery

CAIRO, May 1. (OPECNA): A new oilfield, discovered south of Ras Ghareb in the Gulf of Suez, has been described as "significant", with promise of more oil in the area.

Egyptian Petroleum Minister Abdel Hadi Kandil has ordered the Gulf of Suez Petroleum Company, which discovered the oil, to begin immediate development of the oil field which is said to have an initial production potential of 4,300 BPD.

Fuel arrives

KATHMANDU, Nepal, May 1. (AP): Urgently needed fuel has begun to arrive in landlocked Nepal, easing a shortage created by an Indian blockade that began last month.

Royal Nepal Airlines Boeing 727 landed Friday from Dhaka, Bangladesh, carrying 12,000 litres (3,170 gallons) of diesel fuel.

It was the first shipment of diesel fuel, to reach the Himalayan kingdom after Nepal Oil Corp. was forced to turn to alternate sources of supply because of the Indian blockade.

Profit down

LOS ANGELES, May 1. (AP): Occidental Petroleum Corp's first-quarter profit was 50 per cent below last year's level, but the difference was attributed to one-time gains from a stock sale and a pension fund in the earlier period.

John Misquitta principal, St. Xavier's College, Bombay will be in Kuwait on May 03/04. All alumni and parents of students presently in Xavier's should kindly contact William Tel. 2464716 (off) or 4744753 (res.)

Baghdad won't exceed quota

Iraq's oil export capacity to rise

NICOSIA, May 1. (Agencies): Iraq's oil export capacity will reach 5.5 million to 6.0 million barrels per day (BPD) by the end of next year, Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi was quoted today as saying.

He also told the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) in an interview in Baghdad that Iraq now had an output capacity of 4.5 million BPD.

But he said it would not exceed its quota of 2.64 million BPD set by OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries).

Strategy I can assure you that it is the strategy and policy of Iraq not to pursue higher production regardless of prices," Chalabi told MEES.

MEES estimated Iraq's current export capacity at 2.3-2.4 million BPD. Chalabi said a second pipeline through Saudi Arabia, due for completion by September, would add 1.65 million BPD to current capacity.

Chalabi said, "So by 1990, we shall certainly have total export capacity of 5.5 million to 6.0 million BPD."

Iraq was unable to export oil through its Gulf terminals during its eight-year war with Iran.

Exports Chalabi said new capacity would give flexibility to exports.

"We might be able to make a dollar or more here or there just moving the oil from North to



Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi South or South to North," he said.

Chalabi also told MEES that he expected OPEC to agree at its June meeting to raise its output ceiling of 18.5 million BPD.

"It seems to me that an increase in the ceiling is something that is going to take place," he said. "Whether we will raise it to 18.5 million, or 20 million BPD or any other figure remains to be determined."

Last week's talks between Gulf Arab oil ministers were helpful to producers in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, the official United Arab Emirates (UAE) news agency Wam said yesterday.

Wam said a report on the meeting submitted to UAE President Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan Al Nahayan "shed light on developments of the oil market,

including production and price trends as well as co-operation amongst the GCC states to the benefit of OPEC producers and market stability."

The six Gulf Co-operation Council countries — the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia — met in Jeddah.

Their final statement did not refer to any stand on increased output quotas, an issue due to be taken up at an OPEC meeting in June.

Meanwhile, the state-run Baghdad Observer said yesterday that the Baghdad-based Arab Industrial Development Organisation is to build a \$120-million steel plant in Egypt.

The English-language daily reported that the Egyptian government will cover 51 per cent of the cost with the remainder funded by other Arab governments and private companies.

It quoted AIDO sources as saying Egypt will provide around 30 per cent of the steel needed for the plant from scrap and import the rest.

An Austrian consultant firm, Austro-Plan, has carried out feasibility studies for the project.

Iraq, which will have an annual steel requirement of around 107,000 tons annually by the end of the century, is working to set up several steel plants to feed its engineering industries.

Local industrialists have said the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialisation is planning a major steel and iron plant with capacity of around one million tons yearly.

Porsche predicts higher profit

Sports car maker recovers from US slump

STUTTGART, West Germany, May 1. (Reuters): Sports car maker Porsche is back in the fast lane after two years of slow sales caused by the 1987 stock market crash.

"Our profits are going in the right direction again namely upwards," management board chairman Heinz Brannitzki told Reuters in an interview.

The revival is riding on strong demand for three new models and on cost-cutting measures by Porsche, whose cars are a symbol of elegance, engineering and the wealth to afford them.

Brannitzki said he expected Porsche's earnings per share to rise strongly above 20 marks (\$11) in the 1988-89 year to July 31 from 15 marks (\$8).

Porsche's pre-tax profit rose to 38 million marks (\$20.5 million)

in the first half of 1988-89, up from 32 million marks (\$17 million) in the same 1987-88 period.

Porsche, which used to export up to 65 per cent of its cars in the United States, saw its business there fall dramatically because of stock market crash and weakness to the dollar.

Industry analysts said Brannitzki's predecessor, Peter Schutz, was sacked before his contract expired because he had misjudged Porsche's place in the US market. Brannitzki, Porsche's former finance chief, replaced Schutz in January, 1988.

He said demand for Porsche's three new models, the 911 Carrera 4, the 911 Speedster and the 944 S2 Cabriolet, was so high, deliveries could not be made in the current business year.

The benefit of the new models would be felt only partially in 1988-89 earnings because strict quality control meant the number of cars produced was limited.

"We had small quality weaknesses with a model in the past and I don't want that to happen again," Brannitzki said. "A customer can demand a perfect car for the price he has to pay."

The biggest sales fall in the first half of the 1988-89 period.

Brannitzki said he now aimed to stabilise US sales at around 15,000 cars a year.

"The 1988-89 year was the most difficult we've had in America and it's a long way to get back to the top once you're at the bottom of the staircase," said Brannitzki, a soft-spoken, cautious man who has just turned 60.

Morocco raises minimum wages

RABAT, May 1. (Reuters): The Moroccan government raised legal minimum wages by 10 per cent today as thousands of workers took part in traditional May Day parades.

Labour minister Hassan Abbadi said in a broadcast that the increase would enable workers to benefit from the country's economic performance last year when gross domestic product grew by 10 per cent and the inflation rate, was kept to 2.3 per cent.

Auxiliary troops and police were deployed in major cities, including Casablanca and Rabat, to keep apart parades staged by rival trade unions.

Legal minimum wages were set in January last year at 4.32 dirhams (\$1 cents) an hour in industry and 22.35 dirhams (\$2.66) a day in agriculture. Unions have staged numerous strikes in the mining, banking, oil and food sectors in the past six months in support of demands for higher pay and other benefits.

Sony plans major expansion of TV research in US

NEW YORK, May 1. (Reuters): Sony Corp., hoping to defuse growing US-Japan trade friction over the development of high definition television, said yesterday it planned to expand significantly its US research into the new technology.

High definition television (HDTV), a potential \$50 billion global industry, provides near film-like quality to video images and has been the most significant development since the introduction of colour television in the 1960s.

Sony said the Sony advanced video technology centre, a forerunner of which was based in Palo Alto, California, is moving to neighbouring San Jose and will research HDTV applications for Hollywood's Motion Picture and Television Industries.

Sony officials said engineers were already at work at the centre and the company plans to double its staff to 30 researchers, bringing it to one-third the size of a comparable operation in Japan.

Sony also plans to manufac-

ture the HDTV production equipment in America, building on the developments that come out of the research unit.

The announcement, coinciding with a major broadcasting convention in Las Vegas this week, was aimed at dulling some of the criticism Japan has received over its big push in the field.

US officials, seeking greater American participation in HDTV, have advocated government research grants for US companies. American Tele-

phone and Telegraph Co and Zenith Electronics Corp, the only major US manufacturer of televisions, are already co-operating in the field.

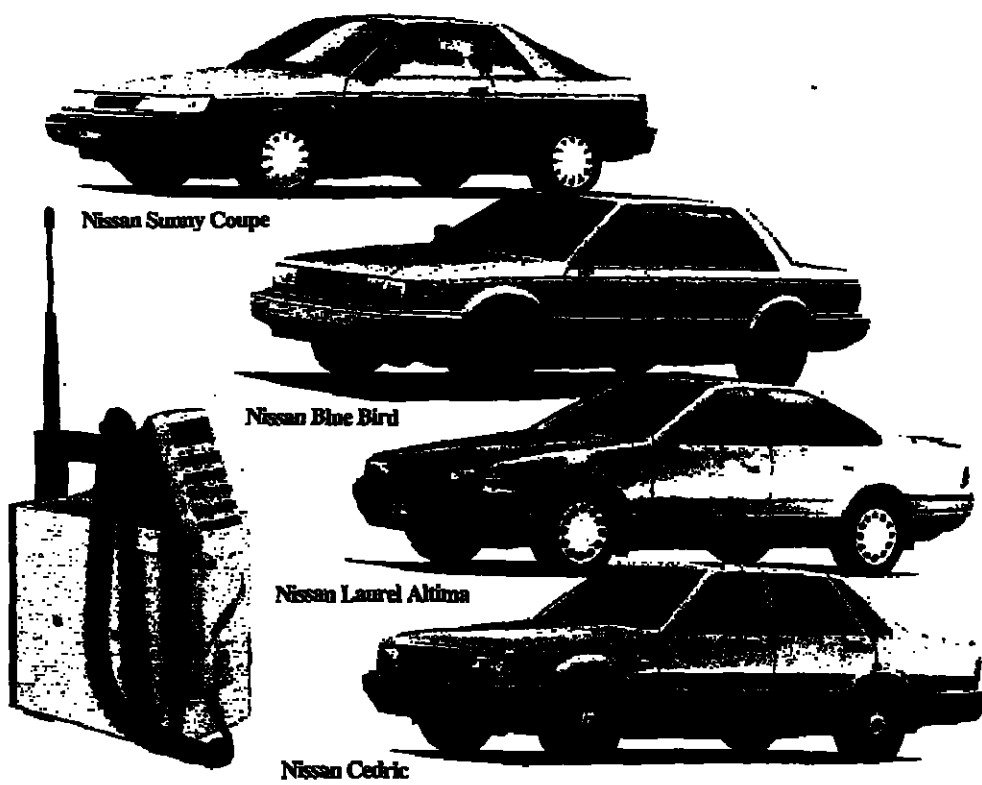
HDTV delivers television pictures with the clarity of film by increasing, under a Japanese standard, the number of horizontal lines on a TV image to 1,125 from 525.

Japan first began research into HDTV in 1970 and has spent more than \$2 billion in the effort, analysts estimate.

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LONDON (Alpha Stocks)			LONDON (Beta Stocks)		
NAME	LAST	CHG	NAME	LAST	CHG
ABBEY LEE	288.0		2ND ALICE	883.0	884.0
ADT LTD	175.0		600 GROUP	125.0	125.0
ALD LYONS	459.0		A.AMER.TS	436.0	438.0
ANSTRAD	117.0		A.B.ELECT	408.0	405.0
ARGILL GP	194.0		A.S.W.HLD	275.0	275.0
ASDA GP	165.0		AAB KENT	101.0	101.0
BAA	378.0		AAN HLD	400.0	401.0
BTR	372.0		AARONSON	112.0	111.0
BAT INDS	550.0		ADWIST	46.0	45.4
BARCLAYS	453.0		ALEX WKV	190.0	190.0
BASS	947.0		ALEXN	378.0	378.0
BEAZER	202.0		ALD LR B	317.0	317.0
BEECHAMS	628.0		ALD LON	147.0	147.0
BERSFORD	157.0		ALLD PART	72.4	73.0
BICC PLC	496.0		ALLIANCE	990.0	994.0
BLUE ARR	95.5		AMBER DAY	53.4	53.4
BLUE CIRC	534.0		AMEC	457.0	460.0
BOD GP	497.0		AMER TST	138.0	139.0
BOOTS CO	291.0		AMERSHAM	498.0	499.0
BPB INDS	245.0		AMT HLT	349.0	349.0
BR COM	210.0		ANGIA SV	390.0	388.0
BR AIRWAY	197.0		ANGIA TV	272.0	274.0
BR AEROSP	585.0		ANSBACHER	77.0	78.0
BR GAS RG	81.00		APPLEYARD	182.0	181.0
BR LAND	367.0		APV PLC	148.4	150.0
B.P.	290.0		ASHLEY LA	101.0	100.0
B.P.FP	289.0		AUS REE A	248.0	247.0
BR STEEL	85.0		AUST REED	390.0	390.0
BR TELCOM	267.0		AUTO SECS	276.0	276.0
BURMAN OL	566.0		AVESCO	145.0	146.0
BURTON	213.0		AVIS EUR	418.0	418.0
CABLESWIR	503.0		BAILEY JAP	263.0	263.0
CADBURYS	355.0		BAILEY SH	94.0	95.0
CALOR GRP	393.0		BAIRD (N)	248.0	249.0
CALTON GRP	848.0		BAIRN (S)	305.0	305.0
COATS VTY	66.00		BANKER IT	89.4	90.0
COOKSONS	311.0		BARDON GP	173.0	173.0
COURTAULD	331.0		BART DEV	201.0	202.0
DALGETY	368.0		BAYNES C	36.0	37.0
DIXONS	45.00		BBA GROUP	191.0	192.0
ENG CHINA	525.0		BEAR BND	11.0	11.0
ENTER OIL	540.0		BELHAVEN	51.0	52.0
FT BARCK	168.0		BELLWAY	243.0	243.0
FERRANTI	107.0		BERKELEY	233.0	234.0
FISONS	364.0		BERNOLX HD	66.4	66.0
GATEWAY	191.0		BH GROUP	134.0	134.0
GEN ACCID	947.0		BK OF SCO	94.0	95.0
GEN ELEC	238.0		BLK LE 2	11.2	11.4
GLAXO	382.0		BM GROUP	441.0	440.0
GRAMADA	366.0		BNETT +F	90.0	91.0
GLOBE	174.0		BOASE MAS	348.0	349.0
GLYNED	314.0		BOODINGTON	165.0	166.0
GUARD RYL	207.0		BOYD SHOP	486.0	483.0
GNL	386.0		BOOTH HENR	472.0	473.0
GUINNESS	466.0		BORTHWICK	41.0	42.0
HMMERS A	807.0		BR ARROW	115.0	115.0
HANSON	193.5				
HARRISON C	192.0				
HUKER SID	705.0				
HILLSDON	270.0				
IMI	234.4				

World Indices				
INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-GR	PREV-YR
FT 300 IND	1750.4	1745.9	1745.9	1455.3
FT 500 SHR	0	1189.9	1189.9	1008.8
FT ALL SEC	1090.04	1078.39	1078.39	926.59
FT GOV SEC	86.85	86.68	86.64	87.30
FT GOV M	185.0	186.2	185.1	190.2
FT MINES F	649.87	656.83	644.24	653.25
FT OIL	2032.9	2037.5	2009.2	1978.9
FT MLD DLR	145.37	144.47	144.66	139.21
FT MLD STG	127.46	126.85	126.08	123.81
FT MLD LDC	133.23	132.46	132.06	129.77

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS DRIFT WELL BELOW HIGHS, UNILEVER DIPS

LONDON, APRIL 28, REUTER - SHARES WERE MIXED AND DRIFTING IN DULL AFTERNOON TRADING AHEAD OF THE LONG U.K. WEEKEND AS WORRIES THAT THE MARKET WAS OVERBOUGHT PROMPTED SOME PROFIT-TAKING.

THE APPREHENSIVE MOOD WAS COMPOUNDED BY AN EASIER WALL STREET OPENING AND BY 1440 GMT THE FTSE 100 WAS JUST 1.0 POINT FIRMER AT 2116.7 AGAINST A HIGH OF 2134.9. TURNOVER WAS A MODERATE 484 MLN SHARES, MOST OF WHICH CAME BEFORE MIDDAY.

DUTCH/BRITISH FOOD TO DETERGENTS COMBINE UNILEVER DROPPED 10P TO 549 AFTER ANNOUNCING IT WAS TERMINATING ITS AGREEMENT TO BUY THE U.S. FABRIGER AND ELIZABETH ARDEN COSMETICS BUSINESSES FROM THE RIKILIS FAMILY CORPORATION FOR 1.5 BILLION DLRS.

DEALERS SAID THE MARKET HAD RUN AWAY WITH ITSELF A LITTLE AFTER WEDNESDAY'S BETTER THAN EXPECTED U.K. TRADE DATA AND FEW THOUGHT SENTIMENT WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO MAINTAIN THE FTSE ABOVE 2,100.

"THERE'S SOMETHING OF A HIATUS DATA WISE FOR THE NEXT WEEK BUT THE INFLATION PROBLEM WILL NOT BE GOING ON HOLIDAY AND THE MARKET KNOWS THE RISK ON INTEREST RATES REMAINS ON THE UPSIDE," EXPLAINED ONE DEALER. UNILEVER AGREED THE FABRIGER BUY IN FEBRUARY AND IT WAS HAILED AS A POSITIVE STEP INTO A HIGH GROWTH SECTOR BUT ARGUMENTS OVER THE FINAL PRICE HAVE SOURED THE DEAL, ANALYSTS SAID.

Precious Metals

LONDON, APRIL 28, REUTER - GOLD BULLION PRICES REMAINED NEAR 32-MONTH LOWS DURING LATE TRADING, PRESSED BY WEAKNESS IN NEW YORK AND A FIRMER DOLLAR, DEALERS SAID.

GOLD CLOSED AT 377.80/378.20 DLRS AN OUNCE, DOWN FROM THE OPENING AND PREVIOUS CLOSE OF 385.50/384.00 DLRS.

GOLD WEAKENED THROUGHOUT THE DAY, WITH THE FALL BELOW KEY TECHNICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT LEVELS PROMPTING LIQUIDATION AND STOP-LOSS SELLING. INITIALLY THE DOWNTURN REFLECTED A WEAK SILVER MARKET, BUT THE DECLINE GATHERED MOMENTUM THIS AFTERNOON WHEN NEW YORK MOVED LOWER, THEY SAID.

London Money Market

LONDON, APRIL 28, REUTER - BRITISH MONEY MARKET RATES ENDED LITTLE CHANGED FROM THURSDAY'S CLOSE, HAVING FAILED TO CONSOLIDATE AT THIS MORNING'S LOWER LEVELS AS PROSPECTS OF LOWER BASE RATES APPEAR AS REMOTE AS EVER, DEALERS SAID.

THE BENCHMARK THREE-MONTH INTERBANK WAS QUOTED AT 13 12-15/16 PCT AHEAD OF A LONG BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND, COMPARED WITH 13 12-7/8 PCT LATE YESTERDAY.

THE REBOUND IN MONEY RATES REFLECTED STERLING'S FAILURE TO FIRM AS IT CLOSED UNCHANGED FROM YESTERDAY ON ITS TRADE-WEIGHTED INDEX AT 95.1. "THE EXCHANGES ENDED UP WHERE THEY WERE," ONE TRADER SAID. "IN THE END NOTHING HAS CHANGED."

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPG
DLR	1.6863/70	1.8810/17	6.3565/95	NOON
STG	1.6895/6905	3.1705/145	10.7215/7330	NOON
DMK	1.8743/8823	3.166/180	29.505/665	FIX
FFR	6.3425/3545	10.708/726	337.68/38.32	NOON
SFR	1.6675/6685	2.8181/8214	88.74/84	26.26/30
HFL	2.1180	3.5750	112.77	33.365
ECU	1.10719	0.655725	2.0804	7.03122
SDR	1.29566	0.766663	2.43364	8.22550
YEN	132.75/85	224.20/50		
SDR RATE	28/04/1989	OTHERS	28/04/1989	

BR ASSETS	79/4	80/0	HEPWORKTH	288/0	287/0	RUTKOR	163/0	163/0
BR DREDGE	154/0	154/0	HESTAIR	239/0	238/0	RUGBY BRG	188/0	188/0
BR DREX	259/0	258/0	HEYWOOD W	294/0	295/0	RUTLAND T	45/0	46/0
BRENT CHTE	145/0	145/0	HICKSON IN	216/0	214/0	SAGA GRP	292/0	291/0
BRENT UKR	384/0	383/0	HIGGS HIL	372/0	370/0	SALT TILNY	208/0	209/0
BRIDON	189/0	189/0	HMRO CITY	47/0	48/0	SALVESIN	139/4	141/4
BRITAIN SE	195/0	195/0	HNRBD 200	228/0	228/0	SAVILLE G	53/0	53/0
BRITANNIC	391/0	392/0	HNR SPHR	153/0	153/0	SAVAY "AA"	863/0	855/0
BRITKON E	396/0	396/0	HOLMES PR	105/0	105/0	SCOR. GLOB	280/0	280/0
BRN & JAC	46/0	45/4	HOMDEN GP	157/0	157/0	SCOT HERI	178/0	178/0
BROWN SHI	347/0	347/0	HOPKINSIN	80/0	80/0	SCOT I.T.	150/0	150/0
BRYANT GP	116/0	117/0	HTV GROUP	112/0	115/0	SCOT MPT	169/0	169/0
BSS INTL	77/0	77/0	ICE. FZ.D	345/0	345/0	SCOT MORT	123/0	123/0
BSR INTL	59/0	59/0	IMRY M.V.	440/0	440/0	SCOT. AM.I	105/0	105/0
BUDGENS	147/0	147/0	INDPOT W	14/0	14/0	SCT NAT A	50/0	51/0
BULLOUGH	183/0	184/0	INOCO PLC	34/0	34/0	SCT NAT W	13/0	13/0
BULMER HP	166/0	165/0	INT. BU. CH	147/0	147/0	SECS TPT	122/0	122/0
BULNID GRP	436/0	435/0	INT. CITY	60/0	60/0	SELC TV P	16/4	16/4
CALENDONIA	374/0	375/0	JHNSHFRST	55/4	56/0	SEMA GRP	319/0	319/0
CAMB ELEC	228/0	229/0	JOS HLDGS	146/0	146/0	SHANDWICK	134/0	135/0
CAMPFORD E	280/0	280/0	KALAMAZOO	34/4	34/4	SHERATON S	88/0	89/0
CANNING W	272/0	272/0	KALON GRP	38/4	38/4	SHIRE INV	252/0	252/0
CANNON ST	254/0	255/0	KELT ENCY	55/0	55/0	SINON ENG	385/0	386/0
CAP. RADIO	728/0	725/0	KETSON	19/0	19/0	SINGERFER	69/0	69/0
CARADON	361/0	361/0	KLWRT CHR	143/0	143/4	SMITH D	279/0	280/0
CARLCO EN	157/0	158/0	KLWRT O'S	154/0	154/0	SOUND DIF	22/0	22/0
CAULDON	13/4	13/4	KLWRT SHL	180/0	181/0	SPRING RAN	247/0	247/0
CENTL ITV	755/0	753/0	KWIK SAVE	431/0	432/0	SPRX-SARC	238/0	237/0
CHAM PHRR	221/0	220/0	KWIK-FIT	110/0	111/0	ST. ANDREW	210/4	211/4
CHARTERHA	23/6	23/6	LAING 'A'	35/0	351/0	ST. JUDITH	37/4	37/4
CHAS CHUR	116/0	117/0	LAING COR	350/0	351/0	STAKIS	104/0	105/0
CHORCEV	47/0	48/0	LAING PRP	517/0	517/0	STEELEY	416/0	416/0
CHRISTIES	889/0	890/0	LAIRD GRP	273/0	273/0	STREHD PR	221/0	220/0
CI GROUP	50/0	50/0	LAMRNC W	153/0	153/0	STODDARD	48/0	47/0
CLAYFORD	320/0	320/0	LON & MET	184/0	184/0	STORGUARD	21/4	22/0
CMB PK NW	850/0	950/0	LON ATLAN	308/0	309/0	STURGE MD	239/0	238/0
CNTRL SEC	62/0	62/4	LON INTL	216/0	218/0	T.E.P.E. UR	196/0	196/0
CNTRY OIL	188/0	188/0	LON LND	75/0	75/0	TELLETRKX	43/0	43/0
COALITE	408/0	408/0	LONDRIN	24/0	24/0	TELETRIC	25/0	25/0
COLOROLL	170/0	170/0	LEP GROUP	165/0	166/0	THAMES TV	448/0	445/0
CONNELLS CO	208/0	208/0	LEX SERV	376/0	361/0	THORNTONS	144/0	144/0
F COSTAIN	329/0	328/0	LIFILE SCJ	73/0	74/0	THROGHTN	89/0	89/0
COURTS FR	190/0	190/0	LLOYD THP	228/0	230/0	TI GROUP	447/0	450/0
COVIE (T)	132/0	132/0	LOCAL LND	547/0	547/0	TIE RACK	68/0	69/0
CRH	190/0	191/0	LOGICA	373/0	375/0	TIME PROD	233/0	233/0
CRODA INT	210/0	210/0	LOVELL HD	265/0	266/0	TIPHOOK	523/0	522/0
CRYSTALAT	148/0	148/0	LON (NM)	254/0	254/0	TOMKINS F	24/20	24/20
CTRY PROP	268/0	267/0	LOMBARDON	239/0	241/0	TOOTAL	134/0	134/0
DARES EST	32/6	32/6	M&G GROUP	306/0	309/0	TOZER K&H	118/0	119/0
DAVIS GOD	181/0	183/0	M&G GROUP	306/0	309/0	TR CITY	89/0	89/0
DAYV CORP	255/0	256/0	M&G GROUP	306/0	309/0	TR ECONIC	59/4	59/4
DEALCO INC	189/0	189/0	M&G GROUP	306/0	309/0	TR PROFIT	59/4	59/4
DELTA GRP	328/0	328/0	M&G GROUP	306/0	309/0	TR TRSTEE	148/4	148/4
DEVENISH	295/0	295/0	MAI	88/0	88/0	TRIMOCO	44/0	44/0
DEWHIRST	43/4	44/0	MAJEDIE	240/0	240/0	TRIPLEX	175/0	176/0
DIPLOMA	238/0	239/0	MANDERS	218/0	218/0	TRITON ER	173/0	173/0
DOBSON PK	98/4	98/4	MARLEY	168/0	168/0	TRSPRT DV	243/0	243/0
DOMPAS GR	340/0	342/0	MATTHEWS	67/0	67/0	TV SU MLD	77/4	76/4
DOUDINGEM	74/0	75/0	MAUMBERS	114/0	114/0	TVS ENTER	331/0	330/0
DOVITY GRP	263/0	264/0	MEHEC	248/0	247/0	U-BORLAND	81/0	80/0
DRAYTON FE	405/0	408/0	MENZIES	342/0	342/0	U-BRD ST	37/0	37/0
DRAYTON C	535/0	536/0	MERCH. TST	177/4	179/0	U-BROADPL	191/0	191/0
DRG	433/0	433/0	MERLIN IN	111/0	110/0	U-CITYTVS	170/4	171/4
DUNDEMSTR	79/0	80/0	METAL CLS	188/0	188/0	U-DEANBEO	187/0	188/0
DUNDEE LD	326/0	327/0	METALRAX	96/0	96/0	U-DEWEY V	114/0	115/0
DUNHILL	309/0	307/0	MEYER INT	438/0	438/0	U-DURHAM	53/4	54/0
EAGLE TST	18.25	18/50	MIDSUMMER	228/4	230/0	U-EXPLAUR	38/0	37/0
EDIN I.T	189/0	191/0	ML HDGGS	123/0	124/0	U-FERRARI	11/4	11/4
EDMOND HD	45/0	45/0	ML HDGGS	123/0	124/0	U-FLOYD E	21/4	21/4
ELECTRA	271/0	271/0	HOLINS OR	222/0	222/0	U-FRD SEL	112/0	112/0
ELECTROCH	237/0	235/0	MONKS IT	262/0	262/0	U-FRD PT	245/0	245/0
EMPIRE ST	191/0	191/0	MORGAN CR	267/0	268/0	U-KUGR-HI	159/0	160/0
ENG. INT. J	301/0	302/0	MORGAN GF	287/0	289/0	U-HUGHES	45/0	45/0
ETAM	169/0	170/0	MORLAND	723/0	725/0	U-KUNTEL	22/4	22/4
EURO. HOME	323/0	340/0	MOUNTLEIG	164/0	165/0	U-KUNTEL	56/7	56/7
EUROHERM	326/0	327/0	MCMLN J	418/0	418/0	U-LON FRE	127/0	128/0
EURLTH UL	82/0	825/0	MRY INCM	209/4	210/0	U-MICRODT	42/0	42/0
EURLTH UT	67/0	66/4	MRY INTL	208/0	208/4	U-MOLIKAR	28/0	26/0
EVODE GRP	189/0	190/0	MS INTL	144/0	145/0	U-MONKAT	26/0	26/0
EX.CO.LOU	152/0	153/0	N.BRIT CA	421/0	421/0	U-MRBYDIN	383/0	385/0
EXPANET	210/0	211/0	N.E.ENG.IND	133.5	136.0	U-M.SEAEG	50/0	50/0
F&C ENTER	33/4	33/4	NAT. TELCH	115/0	115/0	U-PAVION	5/0	5/0
F&C EUROT	288/0	288/0	NEVARTAL	045/0	050/0	U-RONSHUT	281/0	281/0
F&C PACIF	166/0	168/0	NORCOR	342/0	341/0	U-SAC INT	111/0	111/0
F&C SWILR	78/0	78/0	NORFOLK C	37/4	37/4	U-STH BUS	477/0	472/0
FARNELL E	162/0	162/0	NORIKANS	55/4	55/4	U-STHROPE	216/0	214/0
FED. HOUSH	209/0	210/0	NORTHAMR	288/0	289/0	U-T.V.AH	208/0	209/0
FELMER JH	177/4	179/0	NSK PLC	96/0	96/0	U-TRIDU U	16.08	17.00
FERNIGON	267/0	268/0	NORW&NCO	180/0	180/0	U-TRIMOCO	38/4	39/0
FINE ARTS	217/0	217/0	O'SEAS IT	217/0	217/0	UK PAPER	225/0	225/0
FINLAN GP	83/0	83/0	OCEAN TPT	317/0	317/0	ULSTER TV	134/0	134/0
FINLAY J	107/0	106/0	OCEONICS	23/0	23/0	UNION DIS	495/0	495/0
FITCH LOW	260/0	261/0	OSSORY EST	22/4	22/4	UNITECH	326/0	325/0
FLK GROUP	306/0	305/0	OWNERS AB	83/0	83/0	UTO. INDUS	64/0	65/0
FMB. INC	108/4	109/0	OXFORD INS	234/0	234/0	UTD. SCEN	180/0	179/0
FLMG AMER	136/0	137/0	P & O PLS	101/0	102/0	VALUEINC	63/4	64/0
FLMG F.E	233/4	236/0	P & O VTC	218/0	218/0	VAUX GRP	291/0	290/0
FLMG INV	182/0	183/0	PACIFIC A	218/0	220/0	VERSON	37/0	36/0
FLMG JAPN	245/0	247/0	PAGE (M)	52/0	53/0	VG INSTHT	295/0	298/0
FLMG MERC	205/0	205/4	PENTOS PLC	106/0	106/0	VICKERS	182/0	183/0
GERBERNAT	274/0	273/0	PERGAMON	64/0	65/0	VPI GROUP	156/0	156/0
GESTENER	276/0	277/0	PERRY GRP	233/0	233/0	WADDINGTON	202/0	201/0
GOODE DUR	126/0	127/0	PERKINSON	162/0	163/0	WAGON HDG	367/0	367/0
GRANPH HD	336/0	337/0	PHOENIX	73/0	73/0	WARD HLDS	131/0	130/0
GREEN KNG	514/0	515/0	PICKWICK	218/0	218/0	WARDLE ST	378/0	378/0
GREILL W	305/0	305/0	PRESTON	122/0	122/0	WATERFD O	79/0	79/0
GREYCOAT	475/0	476/0	PRIEST (B)	43/0	43/0	WATERFD U	79/0	79/0
GRMP TV A	70/0	70/0	PRIEST MA	435/0	433/0	WATES CITY	189/0	189/0
G PTPTLD	366/0	368/0	PROFSECUR	189/0	189/0	WCCS BAB	329/0	333/0
GUINNS HA	125/0	126/0	PRODFOOT	267/0	268/0	WCCS B&B	253/0	256/0
GVT ORIE	381/0	382/0	PROV FINL	321/0	322/0	WEIR GRP	233/0	233/0
GVT STRA	261/0	262/0	RAINE IND	109.0	110.0	WEMLEY	118/0	118/0
H&LND DIS	233/0	233/0	RANSHOES	452/0	451/0	WESTBURY	260/0	260/0
HALMA	215/0	214/0	RATNERS	218/0	218/0	WESTLAND	147/0	148/0
HAMBROS J	311/0	312/0	RECHAN EV	484/0	484/0	WHENAY	122/0	122/0
HANSON	877/0	880/0	REFUGAL GP	457/0	458/0	WHITECROF	310/0	310/0
HATHUN LE	64/4	65/0	REGALON	126/0	127/0	WILSON BOW	253/0	253/0
HAZELWOOD	252/0	253/0	RENTCRST	77/4	77/0	WILSON CON	178/0	178/0
HEATHCEC	460/0	462/0	RENTCRST	77/4	77/0	WOLSELEY	280/0	279/0
HELENE PL	32/4	32/4	RENTCRST	77/4	77/0	WOLVEDUD	424/0	425/0
HELICAL B	309/0	310/0	RENTCRST	77/4	77/0	WPP GRP	681/0	685/0
			RENTCRST	77/4	77/0	WY MOTOR	635/0	635/0
			RENTCRST	77/4	77/0	YALEN B&B	325/0	325/0
			RENTCRST	77/4	77/0	YORK CHN	182/0	182/0
			RENTCRST	77/4	77/0	YORK (EN)	32/0	32/0

Stringent laws needed to protect environment

Rich countries have moral duty to help Third World: Pope

ANTANANARIVO, May 1, (Reuters): Pope John Paul II said yesterday that advanced countries had a moral duty to pull Africa and the rest of the Third World out of poverty and underdevelopment.

The Pope also told diplomats on his last night in Madagascar there was an urgent need for stringent international laws to protect the environment, including the safeguarding of rain forests.

This huge island in the Indian Ocean has seen its living standards tumble over the past 10 years due to falling prices for agricultural exports and the destruction of lush rain forests which has left barren hillsides scarred by erosion.

The Pope said the world had to admit that "two thirds of humanity continues to suffer hunger and cannot reach a level of education allowing them to take charge of

their own progress."

In his tough and wide-ranging address to diplomats at the Vatican embassy, he said vast populations lived in conditions of dramatic inequality, malnutrition, disease and ignorance.

Adjustment

Like many other Third World countries, Madagascar has tightened its belt to undertake a painful economic adjustment programme recommended by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The austerity plan has slashed living standards, cut spending on health and education and the country now faces increasing malnutrition and malaria in its heavily populated central highlands.

"The needs of less prosperous nations, the difficulties which fill the lives of too

many human beings, are themselves an appeal for international co-operation," the Pope said.

He said short-term solutions, such as emergency aid, were not enough. The Third World had a dire need to benefit from a transfer of technology that could boost long-term development.

Is not making knowledge available to all an element of justice?" the Pope asked. He said recent improvements in East-West relations should now free up advanced countries to concentrate on the needs of the Third World.

The Pope also made one of his most specific appeals yet for the protection of the environment.

Last week at the Vatican he met the English rock star Sting, who is on a world tour to draw attention to the destruction of

Brazil's Amazon rain forest.

He told the diplomats international co-operation was needed to defend the world's forests, stop desertification, and halt the spread of toxic substances which hurt man, vegetation, and the atmosphere.

Protection

"It is urgent that the international community enact legal and technical means to guarantee the protection of the natural environment," he said.

Today the Pope concludes his four-day visit to Madagascar with a morning visit to Fianarantsoa, the hill-town where Catholic missionaries established their first base in Madagascar in the mid 19th century.

He will then leave for an overnight stop on the French island of Reunion before visiting Zambia and Malawi.

\$730m deal

UK WPP takeover to create giant ad firm

NEW YORK, May 1, (AP): Britain's WPP Group PLC says it wants to buy rival ad agency Ogilvy & Mather Inc. in a \$730 million deal that would create a giant advertising holding company vying with Britain's Saatchi and Saatchi PLC as the world's largest.

Ogilvy, the New York-based parent company of Ogilvy & Mather world-wide, said yesterday the offer was unsolicited and that the company wanted to remain independent.

However, an industry source with knowledge of the offer said that Kenneth Roman, Ogilvy's chairman and chief executive, had been in talks with WPP Group chief executive Martin Sorrell before the offer was made.

WPP, parent of the J. Walter Thompson Co. of New York, offered Ogilvy's management \$45-a-share cash for Ogilvy's 16.1 million shares, which includes exercised stock options. The deal was proposed in a letter from Sorrell that Ogilvy received late Friday, an Ogilvy spokeswoman said.

Sales

"Mr Sorrell's proposal letter to Ogilvy appears primarily to be a sales pitch which suffers from serious flaws in business logic," Roman said in a statement yesterday.

"The boot-strap character of WPP's approach is further underlined by the lack of committed financing even for what is obviously intended to be a starting price," he said.

However, the industry source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that Sorrell had provided Ogilvy with a letter from WPP's bankers certifying the availability of funding.

Roman said Ogilvy had record earnings and revenues in 1988, and that it had no desire to be taken over. He said the company's directors would consider the WPP proposal "in due course."

London-based WPP confirmed its offer in a statement yesterday but declined further comment.

WPP had world-wide billings last year of \$7.8 billion, placing it third among the world's ad agency holding companies, according to Advertising Age, a trade publication. Ogilvy had billings of \$5.7 billion, placing it fifth. Combined, their billings would have about equalled Saatchi and Saatchi's \$13.5 billion.

Mergers

A WPP takeover of Ogilvy would be another in a series of mergers that have reshaped the world advertising industry in the past few years, reducing the number of agencies sharply.

The takeover would also be a personal triumph for Sorrell, who was the architect of much of the global expansion of Saatchi and Saatchi, where he was financial director until he left to form his own agency holding company.

Among WPP's major clients are Ford Motor Co., Quaker Oats Co., Kellogg Co., Eastman Kodak Co., and the Kraft operations of Philip Morris Inc. Ogilvy's major clients include American Express Co., Polaroid Corp., Seagram Co. Ltd., the Shell Oil Company and Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch consumer products company.

Petrol prices up

KUALA LUMPUR, May 1, (KUNA): The price of "regular" petrol throughout Malaysia will go up by US 1.1 cents of US 35.6 cents per litre from today.

A Trade and Industry Ministry statement said the increase was justified by rising costs of petroleum products and the strengthening of the American dollar against the Malaysian ringgit.

The prices of other petroleum products remain unchanged, the statement added.

Pentagon hot line sold to Swiss firm

UPPER SADDLE RIVER, New Jersey, May 1, (AP): The hot line, the link set up between Washington and Moscow more than 25 years ago to reduce the risk of an accidental war, has been sold to a Swiss firm.

The hot line was part of a division of Western Union Corp. of the United States sold last week to Swiss-owned Tele-Columbus USA of New York for \$56 million as part of a reorganisation.

Western Union said.

In a deal approved by the Federal Communications Commission, Tele-Columbus acquired the private-line service of ITT World Communications a company acquired 16 months ago by Western Union.

Western Union, which is based in northern New Jersey, kept the division's telex and international cablegram business.

Tele-Columbus is owned by Motor-Columbus AG, a telecommunications and cable television company based in Baden, Switzerland, Western Union spokesman Warren Bechtel said yesterday.

The hot line, which consists of satellite connections and ground lines, is secure because messages are encoded as they travel between the United States and the Soviet Union. Navy Lt. Cmdr James Cudde, a Navy spokesman, was quoted as saying in Saturday editions of the Star-Ledger of Newark.

Kolome messages are transmitted from a small room in the Pentagon housing computer terminals. They instantly appear on Soviet screens, and can be printed out at the rate of 1,000 words a minute. Five years ago, the ability to send facsimiles was added.

Voice conversations are considered more likely to be misunderstood or mistranslated.

ITT Corp. set up the hot line in 1963 after President Kennedy expressed concern about the amount of time it took to contact Soviet leaders during the Cuban missile crisis.

New kind of business contract

Weapons co-development seen as wave of future

CHICAGO, May 1, (Reuters): The agreement between the United States and Japan to jointly develop the FSX fighter jet is a new kind of business contract that other foreign buyers of US military hardware will be eager to follow, industry executives and analysts said.

"Co-development is part of the evolution of how the US aerospace industry does business around the world, and we will have to do more of it not only to increase but even to maintain our market share," Vernon Lee, vice-president in charge of the FSX programme at General Dynamics, told Reuters.

The FSX will be derived from General Dynamics' F-16 jet, now a mainstay of the US Air Force.

US weapons makers for many years have sold overseas. But nations have increasingly wanted to hold down costs by building part of the jet themselves, and in some cases assembling the entire plane under a licensing agreement.

Approval

But the FSX programme, which still must get Congress approval, could be the first whereby a foreign company, Japan's Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, becomes the prime contractor.

Mitsubishi will take the F-16's technology and spend more than \$1 billion to improve it, before assembling the entire run of 130 jets.

Terms call for US firms to get 40 per cent of development and production work.

Critics in Congress say the US should have sold a jet already in production, which would keep US assembly lines running longer. They also fear that Japan will be getting technology that could bolster their commercial aviation business.

President George Bush, when announcing the \$7 billion deal on Friday after months of delicate negotiations, said US technology — especially the on-board computer codes — will be tightly protected as it is transferred from General Dynamics and other American firms to Mitsubishi.

Analysts said the agreement would not only keep Japan from building an aircraft of its own, but would also provide the US with access to Japanese technology.

But the joint development plan with Japan could inspire other US customers to demand the same, they said.

"The people who will really be watching this programme closely are the Europeans, the Koreans and others in the Pacific rim such as Singapore, where they're trying to build their aerospace capabilities," said an industry source.

Weapons

Rather than just buy US-made jets or other weapons, they will try to trade on their strengths in technology or even cheap labour rates in sale negotiations, he said. Japan has the most leverage now because of its trade surplus, enormous wealth and advances in high technology.

Nicaragua devalues currency

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, May 1, (AP): The government yesterday announced the 14th official devaluation of Nicaragua's national currency this year.

The Sunday communique from the Central Bank of Nicaragua said it was devaluing the national currency known as the cordoba by 2.89 per cent. The announcement came on the eve of May Day, an international workers' day celebration.

After the devaluation, it will take 6.90 cordobas to buy a US dollar.

The leftist Sandinista government has imposed severe economic-austerity measures since January, including the periodic devaluation of the national currency, to fight the country's hyperinflation and increase the value of agricultural goods for export.

Today is the grand opening of

ZAINAH CENTER
IN FAHAHEEL

To reduce pressure on ZAINAH Center in Salmiya and provide our respected customers in the 10th area enough opportunity, we invite the public to attend the inauguration party of the second branch of

ZAINAH
CENTER in Fahaheel on
TUESDAY, May 2
at 8.00 P.M.

Fahaheel —
Coastal Road
behind the
Hungry Bummy and
Pizza Italia.
Jassem & Nader
Al Dabbous Bldg.

...to reduce the pressure on ZAINAH Center in Salmiya and provide our respected customers in the 10th area enough opportunity, we invite the public to attend the inauguration party of the second branch of ZAINAH CENTER in Fahaheel on Tuesday, May 2 at 8.00 P.M.

Politicians talk about changes

California's spending limit under scrutiny

SACRAMENTO, California, May 1, (UPI): Like Rip van Winkle, the limit on government spending that Californians adopted a decade ago in the aftermath of the great tax revolt lay dormant for years.

But when the roaring inflation of the late 1970s finally slowed and the golden state's diverse economy picked up steam, the California treasury slammed into the spending ceiling.

The initiative that curbs government budgets generally requires that any revenues above the ceiling go back to taxpayers. The result: \$1.1 billion worth of tax rebate checks arrived in mailboxes across the state at the height of the 1987 Christmas season.

The 1979 voter-passed proposition 4 restricted increases in public spending by local governments as well as the state to a rate matching California's population growth and inflation.

But as the initiative approaches its 10-year anniversary in November, it is coming under increasing scrutiny, even by the business interests that originally backed it.

Because inflation soared in those early years and the population still grows by nearly 2,000 people daily, the limit has risen 132 per cent since its adoption. Still, critics argue the restrictions have failed to keep pace with economic expansion, crimping highway spending and other needed investments.

Offspring

The spending ceiling, promoted by anti-tax crusader Paul Gann, at first seemed an innocuous offspring of the voter maelstrom that brought about proposition 13.

Coming a year after California voters slashed their property taxes at the urging of Howard Jarvis and Gann, proposition 4 had little organised opposition in the climate of high inflation, soaring housing prices and record-high interest rates.

Sixteen other states, most of them in the West, adopted tax and spending limits during the next four years as the anti-tax movement spread. Most of the restrictions were tied to growth in state personal income. But in California, the spending ceiling was pegged to a conservative standard for gauging inflation. Critics now argue that standard has failed to accurately reflect available revenues or the cost of running government.

A recent study by the national association of state budget officers discovered most of the state spending limits have had little actual effect on curbing taxes or spending.

"The overall condition of state economies and structure of state tax systems, in combination with

the sensitivity of policy-makers to anti-tax sentiment, have done more to limit state spending than have imposed restrictions," it concluded.

Lingering anti-tax sentiment in California has helped keep revenues just below the spending limit since the rebate. In the aftermath of the taxpayer uprising, California's tax structure took on a permanently leaner look. Republican Governor George Deukmejian has fought higher taxes.

But the business leaders who supported Deukmejian in the past are warning that California is entering the 1990s on the ailing infrastructure of the 1950s and 1960s. Tuition-free university campuses, a north-south water transport system and the impressive freeways built during those boom years gave California a reputation for leadership in an era unfettered by spending restraints.

Now the freeways are clogged and crumbling, soaring enrollments portend new demands for campuses. Deukmejian is threatening to cut mental health programmes to make ends meet and the treasury flirts with red ink.

In a comprehensive study of the Gann Limit's effects, the California Taxpayers' Association notes state spending grew almost 3,000 per cent between 1950 and 1985.

Gann notes state spending has doubled since 1982 even with the limit in place from Democratic former Gov Jerry Brown's last budget of \$24 billion to Deukmejian's proposed 1989-90 blueprint of nearly \$48 billion.

Nobody is willing to tamper with proposition 13. But the decennial anniversary of proposition 4 may produce a new ballot measure asking voters to ease up on the limit.

Politicians from both parties are talking about changes.

"A prosperous state like California should have the flexibility to build fairly and wisely to meet all the needs of our growing, diverse population," Deukmejian, an early supporter of the spending limit, declared in a change of heart in January. "We cannot meet the tough challenges of tomorrow if we are hamstringed by the restrictions of yesterday."

His rethinking was spurred, in part, by the success of his budgeting nemesis, state schools chief Bill Honig, in securing passage of a proposition last November to revise the spending ceiling by channelling more money to schools. Voters tampered with the limit, perhaps unknowingly, by also passing a proposition to raise taxes on tobacco products while exempting the new revenues from the spending restrictions.

Colt firearms to be sold

NEW YORK, May 1, (Reuters): Colt Industries Inc., maker of the gun that became a symbol of the American west, said on Friday it has hired investment bank Morgan Stanley to help it seek proposals for the sale of its Colt firearms division.

"It was a business decision," said spokesman Mike Dunn of the move to sell a major piece of American history best summed

up by the post-civil war slogan: "Abe Lincoln may have freed all men, but Sam Colt made them equal."

He declined to say how much the division earned last year, what it might sell for or when a sale might be expected.

The company, which earned \$91 million on sales of \$1.66 billion last year, went private last June in a leveraged buyout.

Vice-President vows to fight trade protectionism

Our goal is to open markets: Quayle

JAKARTA, May 1, (Agencies): US Vice-President Dan Quayle, fresh from a visit to Australia where he faced accusations the United States unfairly subsidised its wheat exports, today preached free markets and an end to trade barriers.

Addressing a breakfast meeting of the American Chamber of Commerce in Indonesia, Quayle reiterated Washington's support for multilateral agreements to keep markets open.

"Our goal is to open markets, not close them," he said, thumping the podium.

He implied, however, that Washington was prepared to provide financial support for US companies aiming for large contracts on world markets.

"Our aim must be to develop a strategy which effectively supports US firms facing government-backed competition from Japan and Europe," he said.

Negotiations

"We prefer to use multilateral negotiations to achieve our objectives, but we will also engage in bilateral efforts and take selective unilateral actions...where they are necessary for opening foreign markets to US goods and services."

In Australia, the first stop on a four-nation Pacific tour, Quayle came under fire for refusing to admit that cheap US wheat, exported with government subsidies, was unfairly competing with Australia's international wheat sales.

Quayle vowed to fight trade protectionism and to work to build up American business competitiveness against Japan and the European Economic Community.

"US business should be to win its fair share of the market," Quayle told members of the American Chamber of Commerce in Jakarta.

"George Bush was a non-protectionist vice-president and will be a non-protectionist President," Quayle told the cheering audience of 600 business and political leaders.

During a subsequent meeting



Dan Quayle

with President Suharto, Quayle disclosed he was heading for Valdez, Alaska after his 10-day Asia-Pacific tour concludes in Thailand on Thursday to view cleanup work on the mammoth oil spill triggered when an Exxon oil tanker ran aground on March 24.

"It's a mess," Quayle told Suharto at the Presidential Palace. "They haven't come close to cleaning it up," Quayle said, adding, "it's amazing, one drunken sailor..." an apparent reference to the tanker captain blamed for the worse oil spill in US history.

"I can tell you, President Bush thinks very highly of you and considers you a friend," Quayle told Suharto, who is going to the United Nations in New York in June to receive an award for mounting a successful population planning programme in the world's fifth most populous country.

Quayle also said an Indonesian woman will become Asia's first astronaut with Dr Pratiwi

Sadamono scheduled to participate in a US space shuttle mission in 1990.

Pratiwi, a specialist in genetic engineering and biotechnology, originally was to go into space before the Challenger disaster in 1986 and has been waiting ever since for another chance.

Quayle praised Indonesia's recent moves to deregulate its economy. He did not mention that Indonesia was one of 34 countries accused of unfair trade practices in a report on world trade issued by Washington last week.

Reputation

Trade analysts say that Indonesia has a reputation for pirating everything from designer luggage to computer games to medicine.

Quayle said he was encouraged by a recent agreement signed by Washington and Jakarta to protect creative works, but stressed there was still work to be done to stop copying of intellectual property, trademarks and products.

Sudan rejects IMF request for devaluation

KHARTOUM, May 1, (Reuters): Sudan has rejected an IMF request for a massive devaluation of its currency, a government official said yesterday.

He said Sudan had also turned down a request to cut deficit-financing borrowing from the Bank of Sudan (central bank).

The official said International Monetary Fund officials in Khartoum for talks on economic reforms asked that the pound be devalued by 166 per cent and that the two-tier exchange system be abolished.

The official, who spoke to Reuters on condition he not be named, is taking part in the talks which began on Monday.

But Finance and Economic Planning Minister Omar Nour Al Dayem said in remarks published on Wednesday that the IMF had made no such proposals during the negotiations. He added

that the government had no intention of devaluing the pound.

Talks

He said the talks centred on the budget for the fiscal year 1989-90 which begins on July 1.

Sudan last October introduced a two-tier exchange system, doubling the official rate of 4.50 pounds to the dollar to choke off the foreign currency black market and attract remittances of Sudanese expatriates into legal banking channels.

Police also cracked down on black marketeers but illegal trading in the dollar later rebounded and the US currency now sells at about 20 pounds.

Sudan, grappling with famine, war and an estimated \$13-billion foreign debt, last held talks with the IMF in November. The fund declared Sudan ineligible for fresh credits in 1986.

Northern Ireland jobless drinking, smoking and depressed

BELFAST, May 1, (Reuters): Many of Northern Ireland's jobless are slowly drinking and smoking themselves to death as they survey grim unemployment figures in deep depression.

Those are the stark findings in a major survey of diet, lifestyle and health in the province where up to 20 per cent of men and 10 per cent of women are out of work.

The University of Ulster researchers found that two out of three men drinkers were consuming hazardous or dangerous amounts of alcohol while both unemployed men and women smoke almost twice as much as those lucky enough to have a job.

"They had markedly higher levels of psychiatric morbidity," university lecturer Arthur Williamson said. Depression, stress and frequent trips to the doctor were the norm, he noted.

After a team of researchers spent five years probing the vivid scars of the jobless, Williamson concluded: "Ill health among the unemployed is a matter which requires urgent attention from those responsible for health policy."

Concern

His concern was poignantly echoed from the front line where Barrie McLatchie, welfare adviser at the Belfast Centre for the Unemployed, witnesses the ravages of unemployment first-hand every day.

McLatchie, who sees a string of jobless families telling stories of debt, desperation and depression, said: "Hardship has escalated here on a phenomenal scale. There is an increase in alcohol abuse directly related to social hardship."

"Ninety per cent of the people who come in here have high-stress factors. It is a crucial issue. I see a lot of separated couples and broken marriages through financial problems," he told Reuters.

"Sometimes it is easier to walk away from a wife and four kids or vice versa," he added.

British government schemes for paying unemployment and welfare benefits have recently

been streamlined, but McLatchie is critical of the changes. "The government are giving with one hand and taking it back with three. The unemployed are worse off."

He said the number of houses cut off for failure to pay electricity bills had gone up 40 per cent to 2,500 in the last 12 months. "There are just so many people who get into debt," he said.

Visit

The despair of the jobless is all too obvious in their faces. "A lot of people feel they are just numbers. They feel they do not have a future in life and accept the fact they are long-term unemployed."

That point is hammered home

when you visit the bombed-out ghettos of Belfast where the unemployment rate sometimes climbs as high as 80 per cent.

A raggedly dressed four-year-old boy traipses aimlessly through the streets of one deserted ghetto, holding the hand of his two-year-old brother. It is almost midday but nobody else is around. What is the rush when you are jobless and on the dole?

Police, fearing ambushes, are often reluctant to venture into some ghettos without hefty support from British soldiers.

Local Irish Republican Army leaders mete out their own rough justice — kangaroo courts condemn juvenile delinquents for "joy-riding" in stolen cars.



Seamaster Professional

In the Olympic year of 1988, Omega introduced a reasonably-priced diving watch measuring up to professional divers' standards. The names OMEGA and SEAMASTER are linked closely with the world of sports and the spirit of competition. The new Seamaster Professional represents top performance in Swiss watchmaking technology. It is super water-resistant (to 200 m, double water-resistance system) with a screwed protected crown, a notched one-way rotating bezel. Its other professional qualities: scratch-resistant sapphire crystal, luminous contrasted dial and hands, high precision quartz movement with battery EOL indicator, bracelet with foldover safety clasp and extension for wear over the diving suit sleeve. The Seamaster Professional is available for men and women in three different sizes in all steel or in steel and 18 k gold versions.

Piano recital

KUWAIT Sheraton Hotel, in co-operation with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, will present the famous pianist Klaus Zoll at the Riccardo Restaurant on May 9, 1989.

One of Germany's most outstanding pianists, Klaus Zoll made his concerto debut at the age of twelve in Frankfurt, where he began his studies. He received private tuition from Wilhelm Backhaus before moving to London to continue his studies at the Royal Academy of Music and won the German Chamber Music Competition and the 1969 International London Competition Festival. In 1974 he was invited to represent Germany at the International Glasgow Arts Festival and has performed at most major music centres in Europe.

Klaus Zoll's repertoire includes the entire works of Beethoven, Chopin and Liszt and his recordings will soon include Rachmaninov concertos. Klaus Zoll has been described as a performer with stylistic finesse, courage to show expression, sense of style and a dialogue so convincing so full of harmonious maturity it turns the concert into an unforgettable experience.

For reservations please contact 2422055, Ext. 104/107/109.



PRAYERS

Fajr	3.39 am
Zuhr	11.45
Asr	3.21 pm
Maghreb	6.25
Isha	7.48

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Ghanim Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem St.
Al Mofl Pharmacy
Abdulla Al Mubarak St.

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Khilaf Pharmacy
Beirut St.

Salmiya and Rumeithiya
Al Rashid Pharmacy
Amman St.

Fahad and Almadani
Al Iman Pharmacy
Makkah St. Fahad

Kheitan
Al Tassamoh Pharmacy
Ibn Seerin St., New Kheitan

Jahra
Al Najah Pharmacy
Fourth area

KTV 1

- 11.00 Holy Quran
- 11.30 Al Madrasa Al Mohamadiya: religious programme
- 12.15 Cartoons
- 12.30 Cultural Film
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 The World via Satellite
- 1.35 Sherlock Holmes
- 2.00 Qanadil Shabiyah: historical serial
- 3.15 Ashre'at Al Iman: religious programme
- 3.35 Hatab Wana: Arabic Serial
- 4.30 Ramadan Competition
- 5.00 Ashwaqi Bila Hudood: Arabic serial (Part 11)
- 6.30 Safinat Al Asdiqa: cartoon serial
- 7.00 Baa'd Al Ifar: Hadith Dinec
- 7.15 Al Tama'een: local children serial
- 8.15 Muslims in Taiwan: information programme, presented by Sameer Alah; directed by Muneer Alouni
- 9.30 Ramadan competition
- 10.00 News in Arabic
- 10.50 Khoth Wa Khal: local serial
- 11.45 Assakum Min Ewadh
- 12.00 Al Thulathiya (Najib Mahfouz): daily
- 1.00 Al Arousa Wa Bahr Al Dam: Arabic feature film, starring Nura, Saad Abdul Ghani, Ahmad Ratab, Sabri Abdul Munem
- 2.15 News summary
- 2.20 The World via Satellite
- 2.50 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

- 8.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 8.10 Islamic Horizons
- 8.20 Cartoons

BBC World Services

- 0600 Newswatch
- 30 Megamix
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 25 Financial News
- 30 Short Story
- 45 Europe's World
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Network UK
- 30 Sports International
- 45 Newsline
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 John Peel
- 0400 Newswatch
- 30 My Early Years
- 45 Newsline
- 55 Book Choice
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Financial News (ex 2nd and 30th)

Kuwait Caledonians
MAY 18: Messilah Beach Hotel. The Caledonians will hold a "celebration" (gathering) with entertainment by John Carmichael and others. Tel: 5335082; 3727690 ext. 253.

Arabian Nights
MAY 19th, 'Arabian Nights' evening at the Jawhara Nightclub, Messilah Beach Hotel. Dress: Middle-Eastern of past or present. 20 costume prizes. Tel: 4847461, 2418017, 4846843 ext. 4515, or leave message on 2614201.

HOTELS

At the Kuwait International
A 3-day Eid programme at the Kuwait International Hotel includes:
GARDENPOOL: Exotic Mongolian B-B-Q with surprises for the children. Ext 8137.
FAILAKA: The rooftop restaurant will present an extensive Lebanese mezzeh, Oriental and continental cuisine with live entertainment. Ext 8012.
LA PALMA: A celebration lunch and dinner menu - promises to be a gourmet's delight. Ext 8166.
LA PATISSERIE: Exclusive corner for families. Eid takeaway cookies on sale. Ext 8014.

At the Meridian
IFTAR: A choice of traditional Ramadan dishes in a choice of superb surroundings. La Brasserie restaurant offers a lavish buffet of traditional Arabic cuisine and Mezzah served daily until midnight for only KD5.000. A la carte also featured.

Al Fingan Tea Lounge offers mouth-watering pastries, jumbo size fresh fruit cocktails, freshly squeezed juices and ice cream delights. Open from sunset till 2.00 am.
Al Waha cafe offers authentic Oriental specialties, shawarma and cold cocktails. Open from sunset till midnight.

SPORTS

Sikaran Karate:
ALL Sikaran-Karate participants are requested to come with their uniform (Kimono) for

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES



A scene from 'Captain Power' on KTV 2 at 8.30 pm today.

- 8.30 Captain Power: Power: Pilot Scout try to unravel the mystery surrounding the child, who seems to leave sickness wherever he goes...
- 9.00 News in English
- 9.30 The Holy Traditions in which God Himself speaks to His Messenger
- 9.45 Medical Science: In Islam. A special programme on the occasion of Holy Ramadan.
- 10.30 The Fourth Arm: The British team members continue their training on how to encounter difficulties in case of being arrested and interrogated.
- 11.00 Bustin' Loose: "Sue Anne" draws a picture about "Good & Evil", but her teacher excludes her from the contest... What are Sonny's plans to convince the teacher for accepting the picture...
- 11.30 Q.E.D.: "Putting You In The Picture." This is the story of four Can-

adians who developed the giant wrap-around film projection format. Every scene is so realistic that some people have to close their eyes. Some actually feel ill.

1.00 News Summary
1:05 Magazine D'Actualite/ Holy Quran
Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

FM Services

- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1200 Arabic Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News on FM Service
- 1340 Easy Listening
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 Italian Hour
- 1800 Persa
- 1900 Heller Stcher
- 2130 News
- 2200 Indian Classical Hour
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Listening
- 0200 Closedown

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaiikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

CINEMA TODAY

- Andalus
- Frisco King
- Salmiya
- Revolution
- Hammra
- Arabic Film
- Drive-In
- Arabic Film
- Firdos
- Balidaan (Hindi)
- Starring: Jeetendra and Sri Devi
- Fahad Open-Air
- Shooraa Bhopla
- Al Fahad
- Alice
- Al Jahra
- Super Star
- Grassada
- Rahayam Pama
- Rahayam
- Sababkhat
- Thunder Run
- Al Jeeb
- Nai Bichar
- Almadani Drive-in
- Arabic film

ORIENTAL INSURANCE
PROUDLY PRESENT
NATYA BHARATI'S SECOND PRODUCTION
'BIN BAATI KE DEEP'
(The story of a blind woman deceived by the man she trusted & loved... blindly).
Some passes still available for 5th May 1989
Book early to avoid disappointments!!!
Non-Veg/Veg. Buffet dinner by Caesar's
Contact Tels. 3725627, 4745270, 4880965, 5623810

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FOOD SERVICE WORKERS
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• Previous experience preferred
• Good communication skills
• Transferable residency
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WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Africa Textiles and Crafts
AFRICA: Textiles and Crafts, an exhibition from Nigeria, is at the Sultan Gallery, 8 to 11 pm, until May 2. Thunayam Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St.

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon and 7.00 to 10.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Tareq Rajab Museum
RAMADAN timings Sat - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon and 7-10 pm. Collection of Islamic arts.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon, 7 to 10 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts - rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

MUSIC

Piano Recital
MAY 9: Well-known pianist Klaus Zoll will give a recital at the Sheraton Hotel's Riccardo Restaurant at 5 pm, followed by a cocktail reception. For reservations call the hotel, ext. 104/107/109.

Geet and Gazals
MAY 19: A musical programme "Bhooley Bisray Geet Ghazals" is to take place at Sharq auditorium. They are also on the lookout for singers to participate in this programme. Those interested may contact: Anwar H. Abdulla - 3989111 ext. 6811; 8 am - 3 pm.

THEATRE

Hindi Play
MAY 4/5: 8 pm. Sharq Co-operative Society. Natya

Bharati presents Hindi play entitled 'Bin Baati Ke Deep', followed by dinner catered by Caesar's. For entry and dinner passes tele. 4880965, 5623810, 3725672.

One-act play
MAY 4-7: Indian Arts Circle will hold One-Act Play Competition in IAC auditorium at Finattees. Twelve Indian Cultural groups shall take part. Three Malayalam plays will be staged on 4th, two Malayalam plays and one Kannada play on 5th, one Tamil, one Bengali and one Gujarati play on 6th, one Marathi and two Hindi plays on 7th. Programme will start at 6.30 pm on May 4 and 5 and at 6.00 pm on 6-7. Awards will be presented on May 25, 1989 at 7.00 pm with a musical show and dinner. For entry passes please contact P.C. George on 4896000 ext. 3643 or 4739359.

EXHIBITIONS

Iranian carpet week
UPTO - May 4. An exhibition of Iranian carpets will be held at the Meridian Hotel, Jahra room at 8 pm. For further information contact 2455550 - 2253/2254/2252/961

German Photography
MAY 2-8: An exhibition of works by renowned German photographer August Sander on display at the Sheraton Hotel, Diwaniya. More than 30 photographs featuring the people of the 20th century, an anthropological study of Federal Republic of Germany will be on show.

SOCIAL

Palero meeting
MAY 2: The Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (KAPILKU) will hold their final Palero meeting on Tuesday, at Holiday Inn hotel auditorium at 7.30 to 9.30 pm. All chairmen, vice-chairmen and chairpersons of each sports committee and team captains of all participating teams are requested to attend. Final submission of entries and entrance fees should be submitted to Freddie Fernando, Chairman of the Palero or to treasurer Vennie Garcia. AVP Willy Sabay is the vice-chairman of the Palero.

May Day
AD-HOC Committee of Pakistani Peoples Party Kuwait, is organizing "May Day" for Pakistani Labourers on May 1, 1989 at 8.30 pm sharp at Holiday Inn Hotel. Local PPP leaders will address the meeting.

Bangladesh Open House
THE Bangladesh Ambassador, K. M. Shehabuddin, will hold an Open House on the Eid Day at his residence in Mishref. If the Eid is on Friday the Open House will be held between 10-00 am and 11-30 am and if Eid is on Saturday it will be between 10-00 am and 12-00 noon. All Bangladeshis are invited.

Eid Prayers
BANGLADESH association in Kuwait will hold Eid-ul-Fitr prayer on the Eid Day at 6.30 am in the playground in between Tanziq and Well Al Nusif Co. in Sabhan (north). All Bangladeshis are requested to attend.

Summer Affair
MAY 6: The Weekend Club will host "Summer Affair '89" on the first day of Eid at the Regency Palace. Music by Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers, live contest, Gala buffet, surprises and prizes galore. High light will be the selection and crowning of the 1989 Summer Queen.

(The Summer Affair has not been cancelled, and is definitely on). For reservations contact Hilary 5741380 (2-7.30 pm) and Julio 5734513 (5 pm onwards) and Marcus 4890566 (3 pm onwards).

Hotel and Restaurant operations class

THE Association of Filipinos in Kuwait, KAPILKU, will hold the last session of the class on Friday, May 5, at Far East Restaurant, 1 pm sharp. Topics to be discussed will be food and beverage and the summary of subjects previously discussed. Certificates of attendance will be awarded. For details call Sarah Maracimbang. Tel: 4843447.

Annual get-together
MAY 8: Annual chapter of International Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen will hold their annual get-together at SAS Grand Ball Room at 7

p.m. For further details ring: 2423315.

Remo's Show
MAY 11: The Expatriates Club will hold a dinner-musical at the SAS Hotel. Remo, India's pop-star will be the star performer and Expatriate Queen will be crowned. City Limits and Perfect Strangers in attendance. For details call Tony 2415439; Wilson - 3918905 (office hours); Val - 5614506 after 2 pm.

India Day
MAY 11-12: Various groups and organisations of Indians living in Kuwait have joined to project cultural evenings and entertainments apart from exhibiting the local materials of the regions and to show live demonstrations like Kolam (Tamil Nadu) and others, at the Bneid Al Gar Sea Club. Foods of special nature of different sectors of India will also be available. For further details contact: 5331456, 4898891, 2644863, 5678762 or 4881387.

May Queen
MAY 11: Kuwait Goans will hold a May Queen function at Messilah Beach Hotel with Top Ranks and Next of Kin in attendance. The cream of the evening will be provided by Alexander Rosario, the staging sensation from Goa. For details - contact 2413348/4881387.

Danish Coffee Morning
MAY 14: Daniella invites all Danish ladies for coffee morning at the Dana Restaurant, May 14, 9.30 am. For reservations call Ingrid - 3713670; Marianne - 3720182 ext 29.

Casuals Cricket Club

MAY 18: 8 pm, Messilah Beach Hotel. Annual dinner with special guest speaker Brian Close CBE, former captain of England and Yorkshire. Courtesy of British Airways. Live music. For tickets and information call Simon Clements (53333248) or Val Tudball (5327159).

Konkani drama
MAY 19: Indian Arts Circle, Funatees. MAR Productions presents Konkani drama "Noshibacho Divo Paloulo", directed by Prem Kumar. Gate passes available at Raja Stores. Tel. 2412970.

Khashoggi's Marcos connections

What's a million or two between friends?

By Charles Bremner and Andrew Lycett

The flickering home videos come from another age. There, in one mid-1980s scene from a family party at the Malacanang Palace, Imelda Marcos croons sweetly to a smiling Adnan Khashoggi. In another, the old friends dance to the flickering lights of a disco in Manhattan, the island where humiliation would later unite them.

As glittering stars among the world's most flamboyantly opulent, it was natural that Khashoggi, the Saudi middleman turned "merchant-statesman", should strike up a close friendship with the high-living first couple of the Philippines. It was also predictable that when the going got tough, they should extend a helping hand to each other.

That, according to Khashoggi, is exactly what he did when he handed over a \$10 million cheque to Imelda for a collection of Rubens. El Graco and some two dozen other Old Masters in 1983, a time when the Marcoses knew their ruling days were numbered and wanted to prepare a little something for retirement. For the US and Filipino prosecutors, the one-time "richest man in the world", was up to more than that.

They say he needed money to shore up his own haemorrhaging empire so he acted effectively as a high-class fence for the Marcos fine art and went on to set up a fairly simple fraud to transfer ownership of a \$100 million of Manhattan property in the form of four big commercial buildings, now worth more than \$300 million.

Now, thanks to the celebrated tenacity of Rudolph Giuliani, the crusading New York prosecutor who is running for mayor, Khashoggi — the man who long operated from a flying penthouse and consorted with sultans, princes and film stars — sits in a Swiss jail awaiting extradition.

The Marcos-Khashoggi connection goes back to the 1970s to become the biggest arms dealer of the era.

Once reputed to be the richest man in the world, the 53-year-old entrepreneur has been arrested in Switzerland at the request of the FBI. US wants him extradited on charges of racketeering. He is alleged to have helped former dictator Ferdinand Marcos and his wife Imelda hide art treasures plundered in the Philippines. Just what is his relationship with the Marcoses?

When the oil money began running out in the early 1980s, Khashoggi's luck faltered and his empire began crumbling. He turned increasingly towards property development in the United States, where he had started out in business as a California student, and towards business in the East, where he was close to the Sultan of Brunei, as well as his old friends the Marcoses.

Whether he knew it or not, the Filipino couple were at that time draining their country's coffers of hundreds of millions and possibly billions of dollars, and sinking the money in foreign bank accounts, property and art, according to the prosecutors.

Khashoggi said he spent \$30 million of his own money helping start the arms sale to Iran in 1985. He lost about \$7 million, according to his associates, accelerating his financial decline, but worse, he was believed to have lost the favour of his protectors, who were angered at his dealing with Israel. Though impossible to confirm, the word among insiders in Washington was that Khashoggi also lost a degree of protection from the US administration, and in

particular the CIA, after the Iranian deal broke in late 1986. This helped clear the way for Giuliani and his prosecutors to move against him, along with the Marcoses, on the whole array of racketeering and fraud charges.

His alleged 1986 dealings with the Marcoses were part of a pattern of turning to corrupt dictators, the FBI says, which included transactions with Jean-Claude Duvalier, the deposed but still mega-rich Haitian dictator, who moved to a house owned by the Khashoggi in the south of France.

Giuliani and his men began piecing together the Marcos-Khashoggi jigsaw soon after the couple fled the Philippines in February 1986.

They tracked much of the art collection, including Cezanne, Degas, Picasso and Veronese, to Khashoggi. In the spring that year, the paintings were packed into 15 crates and flown to Nice, driven to Monaco and loaded on to the yacht Nabila, then owned by Khashoggi, which was berthed in the harbour. The extradition charges against Khashoggi accuse him of selling much of the collection from the yacht, though in 1987, after searches by French police and

questions from US agents, he handed nine paintings, worth some \$2 million, over to the authorities.

These were flown back to America aboard the plane of Edwin Meese, the then Attorney-General, who was attending an Interpol conference in Paris at the time. The FBI suspect that Khashoggi may have sold the paintings to himself, through a Panamanian company, the Interconsult Eastern Corporation.

The US authorities and lawyers for creditors were closely following Khashoggi's property business before the Marcos connection emerged. The initial legwork for unravelling the alleged Manhattan swindle was done, not by Giuliani's men, but by an aggrieved former Marcos associate who claimed the former president had swindled him out of a 1985 contract to sell him four Manhattan properties — the Crown Building on Fifth Avenue, the Herald Centre in the prime department store district of 34th Street and Broadway, 200 Madison Avenue and the 70-storey 40 Wall Street building.

When he went to conclude the deal, Joseph Bernstein was told that Khashoggi, not Marcos, owned the buildings. He was shown a 1985 contract, signed in Panama, which transferred ownership to the Saudi. But Bernstein's private detectives unearthed American Express charges, telex dates and Panamanian immigration documents to show that the parties to the contract had not been in Panama on the claimed date of signature.

Evidence

The evidence was handed to Giuliani, who was forced by the White House to redraft his charges against Marcos, an old Reagan ally, but by last October, the President was convinced that the former Philippines president and his wife had committed crimes while on US territory and gave the green light. Indictments were filed against the Marcoses and Khashoggi, as well as seven associates, and FBI affidavits were released, giving all the details of the alleged

transactions. Khashoggi is accused of racketeering, fraud and obstruction of justice. He also faces, along with the Marcoses, a charge of defrauding US banks of more than \$165 million that was borrowed to finance the properties. The racketeering law allowed the prosecutors to freeze the defendants' assets associated with the alleged wrong-doing. In Khashoggi's case, this meant his American bank accounts and also his spectacular two-floor apartment plus swimming pool in the Olympic Towers on Fifth Avenue.

With typical bravado, Adnan Khashoggi thought he was inviolable. His Los Angeles-based lawyer, Frank Morse, pleaded with the arms dealer to stay in Saudi Arabia until the legal fire-works surrounding his business relationship with Marcos had subsided. Earlier last month he wanted to go for his regular annual health check-up in Baden-Baden in West Germany. But he was advised against travelling there. So he holed up in the luxury Schweizerhof hotel in Bern.

This time he reckoned without the controversial new spirit of judicial co-operation between US and Swiss authorities.

"The Swiss have been extremely co-operative," says David Runkel of the Justice Department in Washington. "They moved immediately on recognising our request."

Khashoggi's lawyers are vehemently denying any wrong doing. Morse says Khashoggi had no reason to suspect that he was to be arrested. "We were in the process of challenging the indictment when he was arrested. The real target here is Marcos. Adnan is an also-ran in that case."

"The man is finished," says Said Aburish, Palestinian author of Pay Off, a best-selling expose of wheeling and dealing in the arms trade in the Arab world.

A different view comes from Khashoggi's friend Miles Copeland, the former CIA chief in the Middle East.

Not mentioned by Copeland is Khashoggi's central role in the Iran-Contra affair.



Best friends? Khashoggi and wife Lamia and (right) Imelda and Ferdinand Marcos. (Below) Khashoggi in a Swiss police picture.

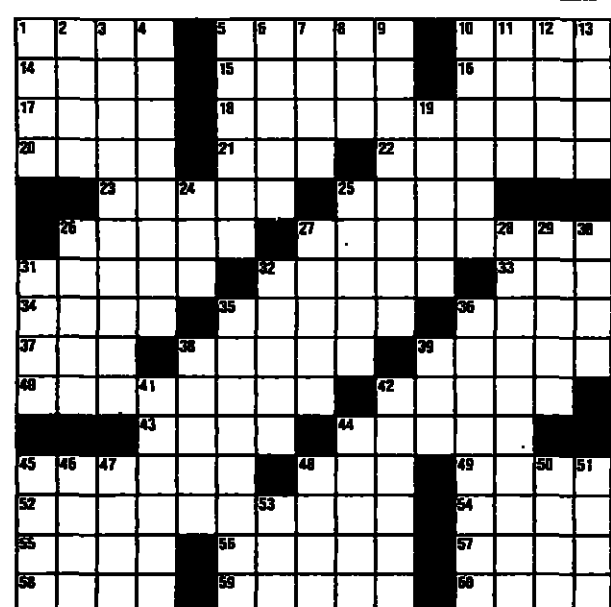


The prosecutors say that even allowing for Khashoggi's substantial legal firepower, they believe they will have him as a guest in the federal detention centre in Manhattan within a matter of months, in time to stand trial along with Mrs

Marcos. Typically, Khashoggi continued to try to spend and charm his way out of trouble to the end. At the start of the year he gave a \$1 million party for his friends in Marbella. Asked if this was wise, with creditors still

at his door, he told a friend: "Once when I was a student my father took a pocketful of coins and threw them on a marble floor. 'Don't they make a nice noise,' he said. 'You wouldn't hear that if you threw them on the carpet.'"

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Plants
 - Supports
 - Come in third, in a horse race
 - Stole
 - Eldritch
 - Roman statesman
 - Con
 - Aquarelle
 - Viscount or baron
 - NFL 6-pointers
 - Dabbled
 - Is borne
 - Persian elf
 - Thespian
 - Order from a catalogue
 - Concur
 - Apartments, in Mayfair
 - Wanted poster abbr.
 - Yale of a sort
 - Travel agency specialties
 - Ado
 - Hesitant sounds
 - Shuffa
 - Ohio senator
 - Auto's gauge illuminator
 - ESP practitioners
 - Counting-out rhyme word
 - Brazilian seaport
 - "Lulu" and "Norma"
 - Period
 - Hutches
 - Beach
 - Susana
 - Cupid
 - Canvas holder
 - Habitual procedure
 - Refute
 - Pee Wee
- DOWN**
- Trade
 - Its capital is Alençon
 - Lively
 - Alloy used to make tankards
 - Purses
 - Table scraps
 - Heavenly political promise?
 - Descendants of a Eden dweller
 - Halifax
 - Nova
 - Stop
 - Native American
 - Part of a sentence
 - Deck units
 - John or Jane
 - Bosc and seckel
 - Marketplace of old
 - Sharp decline
 - Sweet, seedy fruit
 - Zoe —, 1935 Pulitzer winner for drama
 - Knitter's need
 - Made a hole-in-one
 - Spumous
 - Convey
 - Unexpected hits
 - Weather forecast
 - Harden
 - Unorthodox
 - Type of wooden bench
 - Dice, to some
 - Was in debt
 - Whittle
 - School near Windsor Castle
 - Prescription unit
 - Atlantic treaty org.
 - Merganser
 - "Norma —", 1979 film

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

AGAR PALM RASH
COPE EBON ACHES
MARCHING GRAMP
ELI EIDER TRAMP
LAINE WISEST
TAFTS DREAM
SCOOTS ABLE JAR
PROM MAYBE PUCE
SOL SOHO SPINEL
PLANT REEDY
DESPOIT ACERB
ELTON STRAY RUB
BRASS AUGUSTINE
TORISO UTES EDDA
YSER LUTE NEON

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

YOU BE THE JUDGE

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
 ♠ Q 4
 ♥ A J 10
 ♦ A Q J 10 7 6 4
 ♣ 5

WEST
 ♠ Void
 ♥ 9 7 4
 ♦ K 9 8 5 2
 ♣ K 8 7 4 3

EAST

♥ 9 7 3
 ♦ 8 5 3 2
 ♣ Void
 ♠ A J 10 9 6 2

SOUTH

♠ A K J 10 8 6 5 2
 ♥ K Q 6
 ♦ 3
 ♣ Q

The bidding:
 North East South West
 1 ♦ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
 3 ♦ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
 4 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass
 5 ♥ Pass 6 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♣
 Study the bidding and play of this hand. At least one of the players, perhaps more, committed an error. Decide who, and what the blunder was.

South's hand was a classic jump shift—a good hand with a self-sufficient suit. Once North raised, simple Blackwood was all South needed to place the contract at the right

level. West led a club to East's ace, and the defense rested its case. Declarer won the heart shift, drew trumps and claimed the balance of the tricks, and the hand was thrown in. Obviously, a diamond lead would have defeated the slam. What went wrong?

Those who would fault West for not leading a diamond are being unduly harsh. How was he to know that his partner was void?

The blame should go to East for not telling partner to lead a diamond. How can he do that? By doubling six spades! When the opponents bid freely to slam, you are not going to get rich with a penalty double. Unless they have lost their senses, or unless there is a really freak distribution, the most you can hope for is down one.

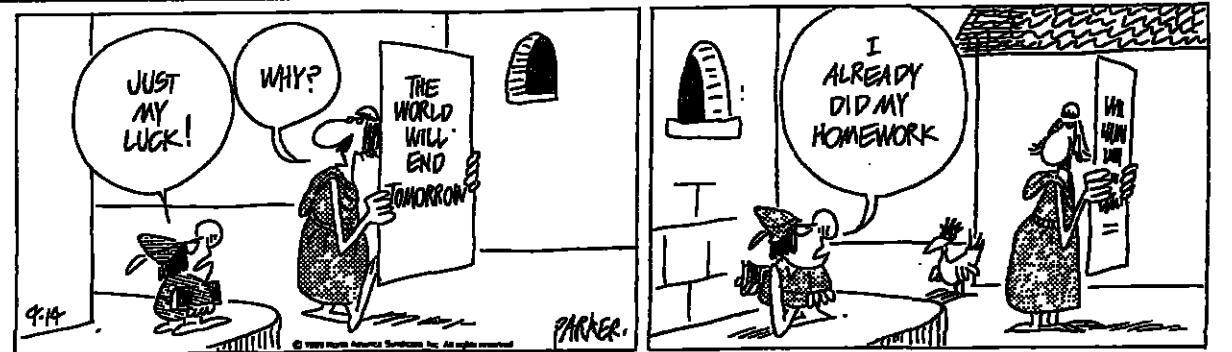
Theodore Lightner suggested a better use for the double when the opponents have bid to slam voluntarily—it should be a lead director. Normally, it asks for the lead of the first suit bid by dummy. Had East doubled six spades, West would dutifully have led a diamond. The resultant ruff would have completed the book and, since the ace of clubs was going to cash, the defenders would have scored a one-trick set.



"Would you say you're 'dogmatic'?"

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)
 You should attend first to your most pressing commitments. Avoid eating so many sweet things that the fact is on your conscience. Keep your wits very much about you. Be truthful.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)
 You will be able to do something you enjoy doing, but necessary chores must not be neglected. You should do all you can to maintain harmony with your partner. Do not allow a small infection to spread. Be less insistent.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
 You will have to make up your mind in a hurry. Better to stick to what you know than to go off at a tangent. Do all you can to stay on good terms with those around you. Be tolerant.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
 You should not allow others to dissuade you from what you feel sure is right. You should pay attention and should not be quite so keen on making your voice heard. Your lucky numbers are 18 and 41. Take good care of your health.

Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)
 However old you are, only if you think so are you too old to learn. You should try to have a good laugh at yourself. Make sure you do not exceed any speed limits and do not exaggerate. Be prompt.

Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)
 You should have a little more faith in yourself. And you should have the courage of your convictions too. Make sure you do not allow yourself to be distracted. Be fair.

Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)
 You will be able to do something interesting but there will be routine matters to attend to as well. If you listen carefully you will be able to avoid falling into a trap. Make sure you do not leave any doors or windows open when going out.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
 No good getting annoyed at yourself, just try not to make the same mistake again. You must do your best not to put your foot in it. If you try hard you won't. Nor should you get in anyone's way. Be firm.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
 If you ask too much from others you will only make them feel resentful. If you try to obtain something for nothing you will not succeed. Nor will you succeed if you seek to take the credit for something you have not done. Be courteous.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
 Something which you embarked upon some time ago will now begin to bear fruit. You will be able to effect a better balance between incomings and outgoings.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)
 Make sure you do not do anything of which your partner would not be likely to approve. Avoid taking too much for granted just now.

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)
 Remember that you are not alone in having enemies as well as friends. You should work hard without allowing work to become the only thing in your life. Make sure you get enough exercise to stay in good trim. Be generous.

Attention: the children are calling

By Manal Elshelkh
Arab Times Staff

SADLY, many children in Kuwait, the Gulf countries and the Mediterranean countries suffer from hereditary disorders and acute illnesses of one kind or another. The most common is that of the blood.

Blood diseases such as haemophilia, thesauria and sickle cell anaemia, give a child a lifetime sentence of frequent visits to hospitals.

These visits range from just a small blood test to a few days of painful transfusions, depending on the child's condition.

The child may have to visit the hospital two to three times a month, for transfusion, if his illness is at its worst.

A lot of these poor children's lives are spent in cold, miserable dark wards, regardless of the warm sunshine reflecting on the clean antiseptic-smelling floors.

These children are separated from their parents, siblings and friends and so often committed to a bed with a painfully uncomfortable needle stuck in one of their veins.

They miss a lot of school work as well, and hence very intelligent youngsters are unable to prove their outstanding abilities.

Nurses, though highly skilled, are too busy to follow each desire to be comforted when in pain, or when a two-year-old misses his mummy. The children are lonely and miserable until visiting hours.

The founders of the Kuwait Association for Children in Hospital (KACH) were moved by the psychological negligence in Kuwaiti hospitals towards their young and innocent patients. They heard these children, already deprived of the gift of health, call out for help and reached out for their rescue.

They carefully planned how to make the hospital a second home to all of its young patients: home in which they could enjoy the great amount of time that they are being forced to live in, while they are being treated.

Change
A group of wonderful mothers, of many different nationalities, headed by Margaret Al Sayer, voluntarily began work in ward 11 (from three to 12 years of age) of the Amiri hospital. Their sole aim: to make the ward a warm and friendly place to be treated in.

They started on March 10, 1989, with the full co-operation of the Amiri hospital staff, and various schools including the Junior Department of the New English School, which lent them their experience in "fun" decorations for children.

The first thing they felt that needed a change were the main light-blocking curtains.

After carefully looking around Kuwait's markets, they found exactly what they wanted: bright coloured curtains with fantasy characters printed on them. The characters include fairies, pink elephants, trees blossomed with fruit, rainbows, the sun, water and hot air balloons. The change was simple, but made a dramatic difference. Immediately the rooms were brought to life.

The same material, used for the curtains, will also be used to live screens and individual curtains (giving each patient privacy) in the near future.

The dull walls came next. The volunteers bought the paint and the hospital's painters got down to work. Warm, bright and exciting colours were chosen with intense care so that they were also practical enough for the medical staff to carry out their jobs to perfection. With the help of a very talented woman, they are extracting some of the characters from the curtains onto the walls.

A playroom, at one end of the ward, was decorated first so that the patients currently in the hospital can enjoy the new facilities. The room has a couple of round tables in the centre and a play corner. The round tables are used by those who wish to paint, draw and do puzzles (jigsaw and the like).

The playroom has cuddly cushions (of the same material as the curtains), a comfortable rug and lots of cuddly toys. The walls of this room and part of the corridor leading to the main ward, reveal some of the children's talents. Their paintings hang proudly: some of them are even signed for recognition by friends or relatives who may visit the ward.

Familiar
A doctor's equipment box also lies in this room so that the children become familiar and less afraid of the instruments. All of the children are monitored by the volunteers and nurses when playing with toys. They are given ideas on how to play with a certain toy or puzzle and what to draw or make.

Just outside the playroom is a storeroom full of toys. A wandering patient's paradise!
These wonderful mothers have thought of everything. If a child is too shy to go and sit in the playroom with the other patients, or too ill, toys are taken to his bed until he plucks up the courage to join the others, or gets well enough to get out of bed.

When the volunteers leave the hospital, they put all of the toys, paints and crayons away. If a child is attached to a certain toy and threatens to explode into tears if it is taken away from him, a note is kept that a toy has been left with him and he can keep it overnight.

In rare cases when a child is too ill to play and slightly unaware of his surroundings, volunteers will go to extremes to

try and make his visit more interesting. Young girls of the Contemporary School of Dance even tried group singing and dancing to an unfortunate patient.

The volunteers hope to increase in number as to be able to stay and play with each child when given a toy. They give the children a chance to enjoy themselves in a friendly environment without interrupting treatment.

The treatment room, where children experience a lot of pain, and the examination room, where they are first introduced to doctors, are on the top of the re-decorating list. The mothers believe that if the sick child is relaxed and partially distracted by the surroundings, he will feel less pain and react positively to treatment.

Future plans include putting a table and four chairs into each section of the ward, a Wendy house, forming a small library and a tiny playground (this will be met as soon as the child leaves the lift on the ward's floor.)

After the collective section of the ward is completed, the volunteers intend to start redecorating the private rooms.

KACH hopes to reach out to the other children's ward (babies to three year olds). However, to do so the association needs a lot of help and support. All hospitals around Kuwait are on the lists but moving from a ward to another, let alone a hospital to another, needs a lot of patience and time in order for the work to be done efficiently.

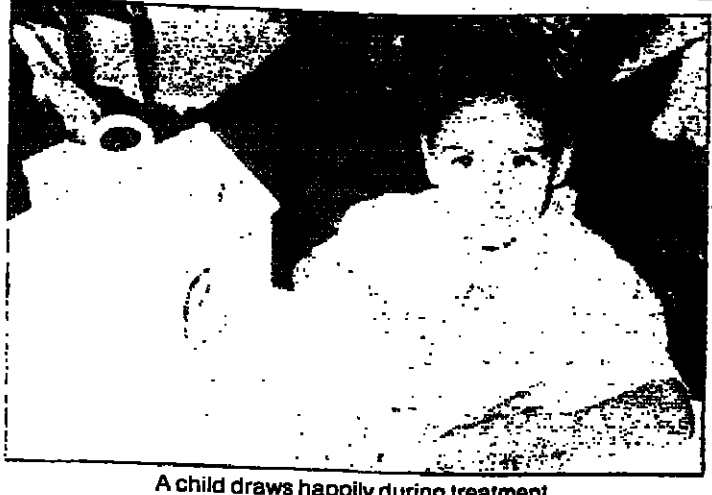
Volunteers
The association needs more volunteers to keep their programme going, the number of volunteers will never be too much. Language is no obstacle. Many of the mothers currently in the programme do not speak Arabic at all. However, with little effort, they are able to communicate with the children. In fact, on one of the playroom walls there is a list of words and their translation to colloquial Arabic to help someone who is stuck!

Books and toys are also requested. The toys and books may be second-hand (things you've grown out of, or would like to donate) but they must be both safe and of good quality. The children experience enough pain without adding unsafe toys scratch them.

The volunteers have, so far, been greeted positively by both parents and children. A lot of the children busy themselves in the playroom and hate to leave when they are dismissed from hospital, some of them even act ill to stay a little longer.

A smile on a young innocent face stirs something deep within your soul. Try and help all these wonderful volunteers keep the children happy by donating something you possess. If you are interested contact the public relations department at the Amiri Hospital.

Photographs by Amer Jedid



A child draws happily during treatment.



Both parents and volunteers watch over painters.



Dr. Ahdh Al Ghanim, director of the Amiri Hospital, praises and supports the volunteers.



A child comfortably plays in the playroom



Patients seem to enjoy painting most.



A volunteer watches a talented artist.



Both amateurs and professionals readily help to decorate the walls.



Before: a commonly dull ward bedroom.



After: instant life, bedroom, now appreciated by the young.

Dear Junior Readers,

We are now in the last few days of Ramadan. This is a very holy part of the month. The part of the month when the skies open to grant wishes to all those who have fasted, prayed and recited the Holy Quran throughout Ramadan.

Nobody really knows when "Lailat Al Qadar" is. Many people think that it is on the dawn of the 27th of Ramadan and the late evening of the 26th.

So all of you have been good worshippers during this Holy month, start wishing. But ask for things that do not harm others. Things which may be granted. Things like success, good health and happiness.

However, as I have already said, do not wish harm to anybody, because if you feel that they deserve it, your judgement may be a bit biased. If they truly do not deserve harm, your wish may be reversed and you'd only harm yourself.

Manal

Word search

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Clue: Book of maps (5 letters)

Happy birthday

Sameer Sharma celebrated his 4th birthday on April 28. Best wishes and many happy returns from family, sister Shilpa and friends.

Reem Mahmoud and Iman Ayad both recently celebrated their united birthdays. Reem turned two years and Iman one year. They celebrated their birthdays by a grand united-party. Best wishes come from their friends, family and relatives.

Ha! Ha!

live in?
A creepy teepee.
How do ghosts get through locked doors?
They use skeleton keys.
Where do ghosts go at Christmas time?
To see the Phantomime.

PLEASE, MISS, JIMMY'S JUST SWALLOWED 50p!

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Join the dots and then colour the picture in refreshing bright colours.

SUMMER

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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(AT4-47140-3) SALMIYA, opp. Junior Indian School, next to Woodlands restaurant. Accommodation available for an Indian working lady with kitchen and tele facilities. Tele. 5619754, 6-9 am or after 8 pm. (AT2-47122-3)

KUWAIT City, Sharq near the Amiri Hospital. Accommodation in a 2 bedroom flat, furnished for a small family, to share with an Indian bachelor. Tele. 2421548, after 2.30 pm. (AT2-47113-3)

Wanted

FARWANIYA, Abbasiya or in the city. Wanted one furnished and independent room for a Pakistani couple to share with a Pakistani family for 2 or 3 months. Tele. Zain, 2442752, 8.30 am - 12.30 pm, 8-10.30 pm. (AT3-47118-2)

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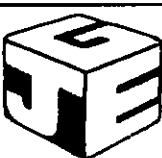
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ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS

Seles stuns Evert for first professional title

HOUSTON, May 1. (Reuters): Fifteen-year-old Monica Seles of Yugoslavia topped top seed Chris Evert 3-6 6-1 6-4 yesterday to win the \$250,000 Houston women's tennis tournament for the first professional title of her career.

Seles, playing in just her fifth professional tournament and contesting her first final, rose to the occasion against the 34-year-old American whose 157 career titles rank as the most in the sport's history.

The Yugoslav teenager had won just three games from Evert in their only previous meet-

ing and said that going into the match she did not think she had a chance to win.

"I just came into the tournament hoping to play my best. Yesterday when I got to the final, I thought I wouldn't have a chance against Chris. I thought the same thing after the first set," said Seles, who has not played long enough on the circuit to have a computer ranking.

Seles, a left-hander, won the majority of the long rallies in the second set by controlling the points with her two-handed groundstrokes.

In the third set, Seles broke Evert in the

third game from 0-30 and in the fifth game at love to take a 4-1 lead.

Seles served for the match at 5-2 after the two traded service breaks in the sixth and seventh games, but Evert rallied to 4-5 with several crafty drop shots.

In the 10th game, Evert saved the first match point with a forehand drop shot, but her campaign to win a fourth straight Houston title fell short when she netted another drop shot on the second match point after a typical 24-stroke rally.

Mancini upsets Becker

19-year-old Argentine wins Monte Carlo Open



Mancini lifts his trophy. (Reuters wirephoto)

MONTE CARLO, May 1. (Reuters): Nineteen-year-old Argentine Alberto Mancini followed his surprise win over Mats Wilander by beating Boris Becker to win the Monte Carlo Open yesterday.

Mancini, the 14th seed, threw his arms into the air in triumph at the end of a gritty display in which he beat the West German 7-5 2-6 7-5 in a thrilling match lasting more than four hours.

"To beat Wilander and Becker on the centre court at Monte Carlo is unbelievable," Mancini said after receiving the winner's trophy from Prince Albert of Monaco. "It's like a dream."

Mancini's semifinal win over Wilander was his second over the Swede in a month after beating him in Key Biscayne.

Becker had played brilliantly all week on the clay court surfaces he least favours but in the final his most potent weapon, his big serve, let him down.

Against him he found a highly gifted young player not only on the crest of a wave but also

prepared to fight every lost cause.

After two magnificent opening sets of tennis in which the ball was travelling low over the net at astonishing speed from two powerful hitters, Becker seemed to be getting on top in the third.

He broke Mancini's serve three times but each time the Argentine gritted his teeth and broke straight back before finally winning a tiebreaker 7-4.

Becker looked certain to take the match into a fifth set for the first time ever at Monte Carlo when he led 5-2 in the fourth.

But again the teenager refused to surrender. He began to play inspired tennis, finding the lines with amazing regularity as Becker found himself helpless against the onslaught.

It was only the second Grand Prix win of Mancini's career after a first last year in Bologna, Italy.

He follows in the footsteps of his childhood idol and compatriot Guillermo Vilas, who won at Monte Carlo twice and shared the trophy once with

Jimmy Connors.

Mancini, ranked 31st in the world and rising, is an interesting looking contender for the French Open starting in Paris on May 29.

He bubbled with confidence after his great win. "I expect to do well at Roland Garros. It's the most important tournament for me," he said.

Mancini, who packs a formidable drive on both forehand and backhand, said: "I think I played a great match."

"My tactic was to put him into rallies on every point. He doesn't like to run so much. Also he didn't put too many first serves in — that was important for me."

Becker, who was playing in a Grand Prix clay court final for the first time, said: "I was playing a very good player who has a good future."

"I don't think you can say I lost it on the important points, he really won them. Sure I didn't serve great but it was a four-hour match and I don't think it (the serve) was so bad either."

Forest edge past Everton for crown

LONDON, May 1. (Reuters): Nottingham Forest's Brian Clough broke with tradition when he collected the Simod Trophy at Wembley yesterday after his team beat Everton in the final 4-3.

Instead of the club captain, it was the controversial Forest manager who went up to receive the cup.

The victory, in a competition confined to English First and Second Division teams, was the second leg of a possible unique cup treble for Forest.

Earlier this month they won the League Cup and now, with Liverpool deciding to carry on in the FA Cup, they can win three Wembley trophies in a season.

If Forest beat Liverpool in the FA Cup they meet Everton in the final on May 20 and yesterday's evidence it would be a fine game.

Liverpool to continue in FA Cup

Dalglish & Co. rout Celtic

GLASGOW, May 1. (Reuters): Liverpool are to continue in the English FA Cup, club chairman John Smith said yesterday.

Smith made the announcement 15 days after the Hillsborough tragedy in which 95 people died at the FA Cup semifinal between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest.

The announcement came after Liverpool's special memorial match against Scotland's Celtic here in aid of the disaster fund.

The FA Cup semifinal will now be played at Manchester United's Old Trafford next Sunday after being halted after six minutes at Hillsborough, Sheffield, on April 15.

The decision had twice been postponed with the Liverpool club asking for more time to make up its mind.

"We have to announce that, following a board meeting yesterday afternoon, we have decided to continue to participate in this season's FA Cup," Liverpool back on a soccer pitch for the first time since the disaster, beat Celtic 4-0.

All the proceeds from the match, estimated at about £300,000 (\$500,000) will go to the appeal fund.

It was a moving occasion for the players and the 60,000 spectators who observed a minute's silence before the game.

Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish, a former Celtic player, put on a Liverpool shirt for the first time in almost a year and scored in the 20th minute after Pat Bonner had failed to hold a shot from England winger John Barnes.

Striker John Aldridge, who replaced Dalglish in the 55th minute, followed up another Bonner fumble six minutes later to add a second goal.

Aldridge then headed the third from a Barnes shot which was pushed into the air by Bonner before Ian Rush completed Liverpool's impressive return by lobbing over Bonner with eight minutes left.



Dalglish bows his head during a minute of silence. (Reuters wirephoto)

Border wants Botham back in England side

LONDON, May 1. (Reuters): Australian cricket captain Allan Border wants Ian Botham back in the England side for this year's six-Test Ashes series.

"It will make victory sweeter if Ian plays," said Border yesterday after arriving for the four-month tour with his 17 strong party.

The England all-rounder, scourge of Australia in previous series with both his batting and bowling, is fighting for a place after major back surgery prevented him playing for almost a year.

"I would personally like to see Botham but so we can get more satisfaction out of beating the best possible England side," said the Australian captain.



Ian Botham

Richards and Richardson take India to task

W. Indian fans hold up play

KINGSTON, May 1. (Reuters): West Indian fans, incensed at the dismissal of captain Vivian Richards, pelted the pitch with bottles and cans and held up play for 25 minutes on the third day of the fourth cricket Test against India yesterday.

Play continued only after Richards made an impassioned plea to end the disturbance and West Indies went on to end the day in a strong position.

At close of play India had struggled to 32 for 2 in their second innings, still 63 runs adrift of West Indies who were all out for 384 in their first innings.

Richards, who had hammered a brilliant 110, was the victim of a poor umpiring decision when he was given out caught behind by Kiran More off Kapil Dev.

Umpire David Archer consulted his colleague Steve Bucknor before giving Richards out but television replays showed the West Indian captain playing over the ball, which cut back and deflected off a pad to the wicket-keeper.

Richards' disappointment at the decision, made evident by angrily pointing his bat at More as he stormed off the field helped fuel the anger of sections of the Sabina Park crowd, who began

throwing missiles and could not be controlled by police.

The incident overshadowed the most dramatic day of the series with West Indies collapsing from 321 for 3 to 384 all out, a first innings lead of 95. Richie Richardson hit a magnificent 156 from 314 balls.

But then with the crowd baying for blood the Indians lost their first two second innings wickets for only one run, even though opener Arun Lal was dropped in the slips three times.

Gordon Greenidge held a magnificent catch at third slip off Courtney Walsh to dismiss Navjot Sidhu without score, while in the next over Ravi Shastri was leg before to Bishop for a duck.

Lal ended the day on 17, with Sanjay Manjrekar the other not out batsman on 14.

Richards and Richardson, who struck 20 fours, had put on 235 for the fourth West Indies wicket in only 64 overs with the captain returning to his best form with his 24th Test century.

Richardson, 85 overnight, reached his 10th Test century after 40 minutes and thereafter played an anchor role in the morning session, during which Richards showed some dazzling stroke-



Richards: returns to his best form

play as he went from 28 to 78.

After reaching 50 from 111 balls, Richards blasted 60 from his next 67 and in all hit 12 fours and a sweep six off Ayub in his 304-minute stay.

Richardson's second century of the series was largely overshadowed by the crowd disturbance but took his run tally for the series to 622 before Kapil Dev removed both his off and middle

stumps in the first over after tea.

Three wickets fell for only one run in this spell as West Indies collapsed, and Kapil finished with six for 84.

Scoreboard

INDIA first innings 289 (N. Sidhu 116, Walsh six for 82)

WEST INDIES first innings (over- night 170 for three)

G. Greenidge c Lal b Dev 0

D. Haynes c Shastri b Dev 15

R. Richardson b Dev 158

K. Arthurs c Azharuddin b C. Sharma 1

V. Richardson c More b Dev 110

A. Logie lbw b Dev 11

J. Dujon b Ayub 11

M. Marshall b Dev 0

C. Ambrose c More b C. Sharma 10

I. Bishop not out 6

C. Walsh c Venkatramana b Ayub 4

Extras (lb-10 lb-9 w-3 nb-19) 41

Total (all out) 384

Fall of wickets: 1-12 32-38 4-321 5-343 6-344 7-344 8-364 9-378

Bowling: Kapil Dev 33-7-64-6, C. Sharma 27-2-100-2, Ayub 39-5-12-99-2, Venkatramana 11-1-46-0, Shastri 13-1-34-0.

INDIA second innings

A. Lal not out 17

N. Sidhu c Greenidge b Walsh 0

R. Shastri lbw b Bishop 0

S. Manjrekar not out 14

Extras (nb-1) 1

Total (for 2 wickets) 32

Fall of wickets: 1-0-2-1

Bowling: Bishop 6-1-18-1 Walsh 6-4-14-1 (nb-1)



Paris marathon Japanese runner Kazuo Kojima crosses the finish line as she wins the women's section of the Paris marathon on Sunday. The men's section was won by Steve Brace of Britain. (Reuters wirephoto)

Agassi blasts past Chang for AT & T title

ROSWELL, Georgia, May 1. (UPI): Andre Agassi, crushed Michael Chang for the second time in a week yesterday, winning the \$280,000 AT & T Challenge with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over the California teenager.

"My goal is to run him all over from corner to corner and make him work so hard that he makes a mistake or I hit a winner," said Agassi, who pocketed \$100,000 for the victory. "I wanted him to make a lot of unforced errors. I'm definitely playing the best tennis of my career right now and couldn't be more confident."

Agassi, who celebrated his 19th birthday Saturday with a semifinal victory over Yannick Noah, ran Chang from side to side throughout the 1:14 match, pounding topspin groundstrokes deep into the corners of the clay court.

Chang, who lost 6-1, 6-0 to Agassi in the round-robin portion of the tournament before upsetting top-seeded Ivan Lendl in a three-set semifinal Saturday, took home \$50,000 for his runner-up finish.

On the few occasions Chang ventured to the net, Agassi ripped shots past him or hit winning topspin lobs over him.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Counties given cash incentive

LONDON, May 1. (Reuters): English counties have received a cash incentive to beat the touring Australian cricketers, who arrived here yesterday for their four-month tour. A prize fund of \$75,000 has been set up by the drinks company who are sponsoring the Australian team.

Johnson helps Lakers beat Trail Blazers

NEW YORK, May 1. (AP): Magic Johnson scored 35 points, 20 as Los Angeles took control in the first half, and had 12 assists as the two-time defending NBA champion Lakers beat Portland Trail Blazers 113-105 yesterday for a 2-0 lead in their playoff series. In other NBA playoff series games, it was Detroit 102, Boston 95; Cleveland 96, Chicago 88; Seattle 109, Houston 97; and Phoenix 132, Denver 114.

Ramos takes US past Costa Rica

FENTON, Missouri, May 1. (UPI): Tab Ramos scored in the 72nd minute and goalkeeper David Vanole stopped a penalty kick in the closing minutes yesterday, lifting the United States to a 1-0 victory over Costa Rica in a World Cup qualifying match.

Hoch wins Las Vegas golf tournament

LAS VEGAS, May 1. (Reuters): Scott Hoch sank a dramatic 10-foot putt on the fifth hole of a sudden-death playoff to defeat Robert Wrenn and win the Las Vegas Invitational golf tournament yesterday.

Postlewait holds on for Hermitage victory

NASHVILLE, Tenn., May 1. (Reuters): Kathy Postlewait held on tight to her overnight lead by shooting a three-under-par 69 for a one-stroke victory in the \$425,000 Hermitage Classic women's golf tournament yesterday.

Foreman knocks out Williamson

GALVESTON, Texas, May 1. (AP): Forty-year-old George Foreman stopped J.B. Williamson with a flurry of punches in the fifth round yesterday at the Moody Centre to remain undefeated in his comeback bid. Foreman immediately challenged heavyweight champion Mike Tyson. Foreman, former heavyweight world champion, improved his overall record to 61-2. He is 17-0 since coming out of retirement two years ago.

Reynolds expects to break 400m record again

PHILADELPHIA, May 1. (Reuters): World 400 metres record holder Harry 'Butch' Reynolds and Lee Evans, the man whose 20-year-old Mark Reynolds broke last year, are now a team and that should produce another record this summer, Reynolds says. "I'm thinking very seriously about running a sub-43 (second) 400," Reynolds told Reuters in an interview at the Penn relays, where he revealed he is now being coached by Evans.

Dunlop completes Italian Guineas double

ROME, May 1. (Reuters): Sikston completed a Guineas double for British trainer John Dunlop when the colt landed yesterday's Premio Parioli (the Italian 2,000 Guineas) by a length and a quarter from the French-trained Lioubonik at the Capannelle. A week ago Dunlop won the Italian 1,000 Guineas with Miss Scappone.

WBA to expel boxers found using drugs

CONTADORA ISLAND, May 1. (Reuters): Boxers who test positive for drug use will be expelled from membership in the World Boxing Association, WBA presidency Gilberto Mendoza said yesterday.

Nine hurt as car runs into spectators

PALMA DE MAJORCA, Spain, May 1. (Reuters): Nine people were injured when a car practising for a motor rally on the Balearic island of Mallorca ploughed into spectators yesterday, police said. The car, a Renault-5-Turbo driven by Spaniard Lorenzo Carbonell, spun off the road on a sharp bend. One of the injured was in a serious condition.

Whitaker retains IBF title

NORFOLK, Va., May 1. (Reuters): American Pernell Whitaker retained his International Boxing Federation (IBF) lightweight championship yesterday when the referee stopped his bout against Luis Lomeli of Italy with 20 seconds left in the third round.

Davis heads for sixth world title

SHEFFIELD, England, May 1. (Reuters): Steve Davis surged mercilessly towards a record-equaling sixth title by taking a daunting 13-3 lead over John Parrott on the opening day of the World Snooker Championship final yesterday.

Brazilian wins Madrid marathon

MADRID, May 1. (Reuters): Jose Cesar Souza of Brazil won the Madrid marathon yesterday in two hours 15 minutes 16 seconds. Jose Mari Fernandez of Spain, running his first marathon, was second in 2:17:47 followed by Juan Antonio Tinco of Spain, last year's winner, in 2:18:22.

Carling ruled out of Lions tour

LONDON, May 1. (Reuters): England captain and centre Will Carling will miss the British Lions Rugby Union tour to Australia in June and July because of a leg injury. Damage to his lower left tibia has been diagnosed as a stress fracture which needs three months' rest.

Results

Bridge

RESULTS of the Westminster System 17 bridge game on Sunday, April 23

N/S

1. Bassam Salah & John Burkle

2. Ali Bekir & Sheikh Radia

3. Mohammed El Baz & Ahmed Hamed

4. Bianca Mousal & Ahmed Tawil

E/W

1. Mamdouh Sabri & Saad Elgued

2. Isay Sapre & Narenda Shah

3. Mohammed El Baz & Ahmed Hamed

Results of the Huhara Centre Bridge Club game held on Saturday, April 22

N/S

1. Salmaa Ali & K.T. Snow

2. Sulan Ali & Alim Mousal

3. Mohammed Merchant & Carsten Bus

E/W

1. M. Blahel & Kamal Arfeh

2. Beatrice Pereira & Obery D'Souza

3. John Burkle & R. Menor

Results of the Huhara Bridge Club game played on April 29

N/S

1. Nabil Akel & Narendra Shah

Sharing second: Ghaz & Yasin and Dr. Olay & Alim Mousal

E/W

1. Mukerjee & Chaudhry

2. Beatrice Pereira & Obery D'Souza

Sharing third: John Burkle & Tomar and Camilla Gurgun & George Masood

Results of the Huhara Bridge Club game held on April 24

N/S

1. Nabil Akel & Margaret Rob-Whitaker

2. Nida Khalaf & Subenlan Olay

3. Nabil Akel & Lollo Muriwhait

E/W

1. Nabil Akel & Margaret Rob-Whitaker

Sharing third: Nida Khalaf & Subenlan Olay, Camilla Gurgun & Khouda Tanas and Suba Fozan & Irene Shuib

Results of Marathon bridge game held on April 28

1. Farah & Al Zaid

2. Tab & Salmaa

3. Henedi & Sherna

Cricket

Sunday League

LONDON, May 1. (Reuters): Results of the men's section of the Sunday League (40 overs-a-side) cricket matches:

At Hove: Kent beat Sussex by seven wickets. Sussex 110 in 35 overs (A. Jagde- den five for 11, C. Cooley three for 18). Kent 114 for three in 37.1 overs. Kent four points.

At Leicester: Derbyshire beat Leicestershire by eight wickets. Leicestershire 187 for six in 37.1 overs (K. Barnett 77). Leicestershire 105 in 31.5 overs (D. Gower 42). O. Mortensen three for 23, R. Sharma two for 12, S. Base two for 14. Derbyshire four points.

At Chesham: Essex beat Middlesex by eight wickets. Middlesex 130 in 37.1 overs (J. Stephenson three for 27, N. Foster two for 12). Essex 134 for two in 36.4 overs (G. Gooch 76 not out). Essex four points.

At Old Trafford: Lancashire beat Nottinghamshire by seven wickets. Nottinghamshire 184 for five in 37.1 overs (C. Broad 56). Lancashire 186 for three in 37.4 overs (N. Fairbrother three for 18). Lancashire four points.

At the Oval: Surrey beat Hampshire by five wickets. Hampshire 114 for nine in 37.1 overs (N. Fairbrother three for 18). Surrey 115 for five in 39.1 overs (G. Chilton 45). Surrey four points.

County championship

LONDON, May 1. (Reuters): Scores in four-day English County Championship cricket matches yesterday.

Third day at Taunton: Glamorgan 118 in 70.2 overs and 188 for five (H. Morris 96). Somerset 186 in 93.1 overs.

Final day

At Bristol: Northamptonshire beat Gloucestershire by 10 wickets. Gloucestershire 265 in 85.3 overs and 291 (A. Wright 130, W. Athey 63, D. Capel four for 67). Northamptonshire 505 in 197.1 overs and 53 for four (J. Gurney three for 16). Gloucestershire 23 points, Gloucestershire four.

At Edgbaston: Match drawn. Worcestershire 143 in 55.3 overs and 160 for five declared (T. Curtis 55 not out, S. Rhodes 42 not out). Warwickshire 99 in 36.4 overs and 204 for six (A. Mole 85). Warwickshire 12 points (Warwickshire receive an extra eight points as the side batting last in a match in which the scores finish level). Worcestershire four.

Baseball

NEW YORK, May 1. (Reuters): Results of Major League Baseball games played yesterday

American League	
New York	5 Chicago 2
Minnesota	2 Cleveland 1
Kansas City	2 Milwaukee 0
Texas	7 Boston 2
Detroit	7 Oakland 2
California	1 Toronto 0
Baltimore	4 Seattle 3

National League	
Montreal	9 Atlanta 6
Cincinnati	5 Philadelphia 3
Pittsburgh	11 San Francisco 1
St. Louis	4 Los Angeles 3
Chicago	7 San Diego 3
Houston	7 New York 6

Soccer

Italy

ROME, May 1. (Reuters): Results of Italian First Division soccer matches on Sunday:

Cesena	2 Ascoli 1
Como	0 Roma 1
Inter	0 AC Milan 0
Lazio	0 Fiorentina 0
Pescara	0 Fiorentina 0
Pisa	0 Atalanta 1
Sampdoria	1 Juventus 1
Torino	1 Lazio 2
Napoli	1 Verona 0

Spain

MADRID, May 1. (Reuters): Results of the Spanish First Division soccer matches played this weekend:

Elche	1 Espanol 1
Valencia	1 Malaga 1
Ossasuna	2 Real Sociedad 1
Sporting	2 Atletico M 2
Real Sociedad	1 Sevilla 0
Real Betis	1 Athletic B 1
Real Madrid	1 Logronos 0
Real Zaragoza	2 Celta 1
Real V.	2 Real Murcia 1
Barcelona	2 Real Oviedo 1

Portugal

LISBON, May 1. (Reuters): Results of Portuguese First Division soccer matches played yesterday:

Fafe	1 Guimaraes 0
Esposimo	1 Portimonense 0
Penafiel	2 Vitoria 1
Boavista	2 Maritimo 1
Sporting	1 Farense 0
Estrela Amadora	2 Belenenses 1
Serubal	2 Benfica 2
Chaves	2 Alavantes 2
Braga	1 Beira Mar 2

Netherlands

AMSTERDAM, May 1. (Reuters): Results of Dutch First Division matches played this weekend:

FC Twente	4 FC Groningen 0
Roda JC	4 Haarlem 1
RKC	0 PSV 0
Willem II	5 FCVVV 1
Feyenoord	3 FC Utrecht 3
MVV	1 Ajax 1
Fortuna Sittard	0 BVV den Bosch 1
SC Veenendaal	0 Volendam 2

Switzerland

GENEVA, May 1. (Reuters): Results of weekend Swiss First Division soccer matches:

Neuchâtel X	0 Grasshopper 1
Servette	2 Lucerne 2
Sion	3 Young Boys 0
Wettingen	3 Bellinzona 0

SPORTS

Langer records first win for 12 months

VALENCIA, May 1. (Reuters): Bernhard Langer ended months of putting misery by nervously notching his first victory for a year in the Spanish Open golf tournament yesterday.

For 15 holes the West German struggled to withstand the challenge of Britain's Paul Carrigill and Spain's Jose-Maria Canizares after he twice missed simple putts on the front nine to turn in 37 and then carded a six on the 11th.

Carrigill and Canizares moved level with overnight leader Langer at five under par when they birdied the 15th.

But then Langer proved he had beaten his latest attack of putting 'yips' by switching to an orthodox grip and rolling in a 50-foot putt for a three at the 16th and hitting a three iron to within 12 inches at the 17th and tapping in for a two.

The spectacular finish gave him a level-par final round of 72, enough for a seven-under 281 total and a three stroke margin over Carrigill, who carded 73, and Canizares, who shot a 70.

For Langer, who won £41,600 (\$70,700) it was a win which proved he can still triumph at the highest level after a year dogged by doubts over his putting.

Spain's Jose-Maria Olazabal shot a 73 for fourth place on 285, enough to go top of the Ryder Cup League table and the European Order of Merit.

Jordan Rally postponed

THE Jordan International Rally, the third round of the 1989 FISA Middle East Championship, was postponed yesterday because of the country's internal problems.

Originally scheduled to take place from May 17 to 19, the rally is now likely to be switched to a new date in mid-August.

The rally organisers said they postponed the event following a request from the Jordanian government.

"It was felt that the atmosphere here at the moment was not conducive to motor sport," said Derek Ledger, chairman of the organising committee and clerk of the course.

"The route of the rally goes through areas where there have been some problems. This is

unfortunate, but the decision to postpone the rally was inevitable in the circumstances."

Drivers' reaction to the news was summed up by Middle East champion Mohammed Bin Sulayem, who is chasing a third successive victory in Jordan in his Winston Toyota Celica GT-4.

"It's very disappointing to hear that the rally has been postponed, but the organisers have taken the only decision open to them," said the UAE star.

"Hopefully the problems in Jordan will be resolved soon and a new date will be fixed for the rally. It is one of my favourite events, and I think everyone looks forward to going to Jordan."

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Kumesh Electronics: Souk Al-Wataniyah - Behind Telecommunication Bldg., Kuwait City
Ibn Cairo Studio: Old Khitan - Next to the National Bank Branch.

10.00 p.m.

Armali & Abulbulbul: Souk Al-Wataniyah - Behind Telecommunication Bldg., Kuwait City
Studio Khitan Co-op: Khitan Co-operative Society
Kumesh Electronics: Souk Al-Wataniyah - Behind Telecommunication Bldg., Kuwait City
Studio Hai Hadi: Jabriyah Area No. 3 B - Behind Al-Hashash Video.

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Studio Ghanim: Salmiyah - Sindibad Street, Behind Fire Brigade.

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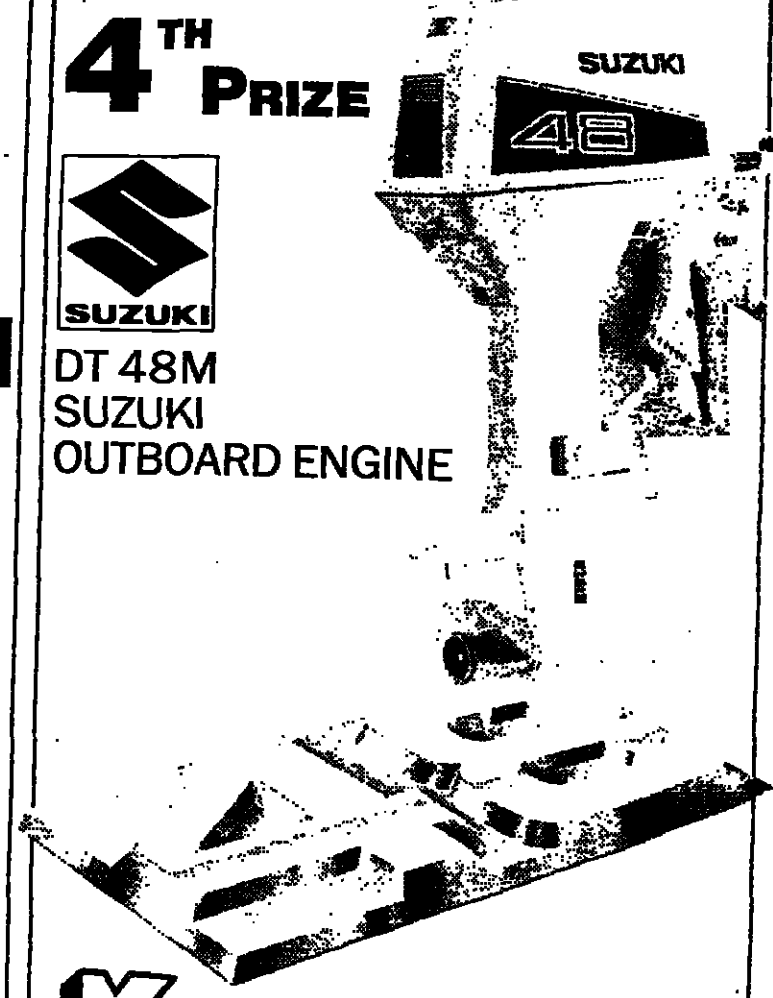
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